

MRS. THEA NATHAN  
5639 N. 11th Street  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19141

Jan. 15-71

Mama liebe Frau Meenen,  
durch Feliz Katharsis  
erhielt ich Ihre Weihnachts & Tausend-  
Grüße, die ich hierdurch schriftlich be-  
kräftigen möchte. Wegen des neuen  
Jahrs habe ich Ihnen leider nicht  
das Allerbeste bringen können.

**„Only the bare life...“**

Gisela and Norbert Kohnen

Ich kann Ihnen gar nicht sagen  
wie sehr ich mich gefreut habe von  
unserem alten Katholik zu hören.  
Ich habe ja keine Verbindung mit  
der alten Heimat, nur habe ich  
von dem Mann meines früheren  
Mutterchens, der mir immer die Ge-  
schichten von dort schickte.  
Vom erhielt ich seine Tausend-  
grüße.

Imprint  
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Correction: George B. Nathan, Atlanta/Georgia (USA)

Collection of the Schüürman Archive of the city of Emmerich am Rhein in administration of the  
Bürgeraktion Pro Kultur e.V. Emmerich am Rhein

Gisela and Norbert Kohnen

## "Only the bare life..."

### Index of letters and documents from Herbert Schüürman's correspondence with people of Jewish faith from Emmerich and their relatives.

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## Preface

*He who forgets the past  
is condemned to repeat it*

*George Santayana (1863-1952)*

Shortly before his retirement, Herbert Schüürman (25.1.1927-27.5.2016), a technical draftsman by profession, began in the early 1980s to look into the history of his former Jewish fellow citizens from Emmerich. He compiled family trees of their families. This happened at a time when local historians all over the country were researching local Jewish life, interviewing contemporary witnesses and compiling local and regional studies. In this way, they helped to ensure that the names of the persecuted and murdered were not forgotten. In the course of coming to terms with the darkest chapter of German history, a more intensive culture of remembrance developed.

Emmerichs Pro Kultur chairwoman Irene Möllenbeck said, not entirely inaccurately, that Schüürman was caught up in the "virus of Jewish history and their families"; Schüürman's widow Elisabeth called it an "addiction". Yes, Schüürman was obsessed with his work in the positive sense of the word. He collected everything he could get his hands on relating to the subject of the lives of Emmerich's former Jewish citizens. Schüürman's study on the second floor of his parents' house on Hekerenfelder Weg was his refuge, soon crammed with Jewish literature and countless files and - incidentally - rare photos of the City history.

Probably no one could see through this cosmos - except the landlord himself. All he had to do was reach out and he had the desired document at his fingertips. But where did his passion for painstakingly compiling the biographies of Emmerich's Jews come from? An obituary stated that Schüürman's motivation was disgust at what had happened to the Jews in Emmerich during the Nazi era; in his opinion, all German towns should come to terms with the history of their Jewish families.

Schüürman probably came across his field of research more by chance than by purpose. He was certainly familiar with the genealogical profession, as he had already worked on his own family chronicle and in this context had come across a list of houses with Jewish owners. When he suggested to the Emmerich History Society that the lives of Jewish families should be researched, "it stuck with me", as he once said. He never regretted this step (Doc. 204). Until then, there had been no systematic account of Emmerich's Jewish history, only a few essays, mostly written by the teacher Leo Gies. Schüürman went about his work with the necessary tact and was not deterred by the initial, understandable reservations of some of his correspondents (Doc. 39). For the sake of his cause, he remained persistent and stubborn. The people he wrote to soon recognized Schüürman's honest efforts to tackle a dark and sensitive chapter of Emmerich's history that should not be forgotten - and he himself was unsuspecting and too young to be held jointly liable for the atrocities of the Nazis.

Schüürman was only eleven years old when the mob also raged in Emmerich during the long "pogrom night" of 1938, known as Kristallnacht, which nevertheless left a lasting impression on him.

What did Schüürman do? Schüürman received the first addresses of emigrated Jews and their descendants, who were now widely scattered in the USA, South America, South Africa and Israel, from the city administration. The city archivist at the time had already tried to locate former Jewish citizens in the early 1960s. From these beginnings, Schüürman created a

complex network around the globe. He often only had one name, and "then the real work began," recalled his daughter Rita Schütte. In the first letter, Schüürman usually introduced himself briefly, stated his motivation just as briefly and then asked for support, for further addresses, photos, family trees, etc. (Doc. 204). (Doc. 204). On February 20, 1984, he wrote to Ruth Taub in New York that he had been working on the subject for about a year (Doc. 664). It was Schüürman who brought family members together who had previously known nothing about each other (see Doc. 558, 559, 567, 630). He was driven by the ambition to see his Jewish family trees grow and flourish, but he was also moved by the fates behind the names and dates.

Herbert Schüürman brought the results of his research to the public in a variety of ways: through exhibitions, lectures, talks and the standard work "Jews in Emmerich", published with Michael Brocke and Cläre Pelzer in 1993. Without his profound knowledge, the Stolpersteine would not have been laid in 2010. For his commitment, Schüürman was awarded the Medal of Merit of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in 1990, the "Fährmann" of the citizens' association in 1990 and the "Obermayer German Jewish History Award" in 2005. The Emmerich Historical Society made him an honorary member in 2008.

On February 8, 2019, the Schüürman family donated Herbert Schüürman's estate, packed in over 70 boxes, to the city of Emmerich am Rhein, thus fulfilling a "heartfelt wish" of the deceased. The city commissioned the Bürgeraktion Pro Kultur, which had already implemented the Stolperstein project and had been pursuing plans to set up a Jewish cultural space in the PAN Kunstforum since 2017, to view, inventory and present the documents. Mayor Peter Hinze said at the signing of the donation agreement: "As a city, we are pleased that the archive will remain together and can continue to provide benefits for those who are interested in Jewish history or the families. In this way, we can make the documents accessible to families and schoolchildren. Because it is more important than ever to deal with it. We must continue to work on 'this must never happen again'."

A small working group (Magdalena Janßen-Koeller, Leni Wochnik, Gisela and Norbert Kohnen) then set about sifting through and sorting all the documents in a workroom set up for this purpose in the PAN. The 22-page index attached to the donation contract proved to be useful. Assistance was provided by the city archives, among others. The working group essentially followed its recommendations. This resulted in the library being divided into literature on Judaism in Emmerich and other cities, towns and regions, as well as general literature on Judaism, including works of fiction. The third "pillar" is formed by the actual archive materials. What the four-person working group found was a pre-sorted, but still quite colorful hodgepodge. The core of the donation included Schüürman's private library, comprising several hundred volumes, primarily on the history of Jews in German and Dutch cities and communities, general literature on Judaism, but also novels and a collection of Jewish jokes. The estate also included family registers, family folders, pictures of Jewish families, around 35 family tree rolls, some of them several meters long, documents on Jewish cemeteries, letters, albums with private photos, photographs of the town's history (destruction in 1944, streets, squares, buildings, the Rhine, personalities, associations, etc.) as well as copies of documents and newspaper cuttings on special topics stored in cardboard boxes. Once the books had received their colored shelfmarks and stamps with the catalog number and the titles had been recorded in the Excel spreadsheets, the procedure was repeated for the actual archive documents.

Since March 2021, the members of the working group usually met for one morning a week in the archive workroom. If necessary, municipal employees supported the quartet by assisting with technical questions and the procurement of materials. In this way, our task – apart from

the remaining work-, can be considered completed in the fall of 2022. To help future users find their way around the archive, a digital and printed inventory has been created with author, title and keyword.

Within the estate, five Leitz folders containing the correspondence that Herbert Schüürman had with the Emmerich survivors of the Shoah and their descendants form a treasure of their own. The letters were read by two members of the working group between September and December 2021, sorted and inventoried in a separate index with consecutive numbers. The index contains the date, the names of the sender and addressee, a brief description of the contents and, where appropriate, notes and explanations. Some letters and documents were only added to the collection at a later date. Schüürman did not always make a copy of his letters, which he always typed on a typewriter according to a similar pattern. For example, his inquiry to Dr. Michael Heymann, to which Heymann refers in his reply of 21.1984 (Doc. 115), could no longer be found. The replies are mostly in the original and handwritten. The letters and postcards in transparent envelopes were not always sorted in chronological order; sometimes the date was missing. Some copies were duplicated. In addition, Schüürman had difficulty with the American way of writing dates. In some cases, people who had heard about Schüürman's research from third parties opened the correspondence; for example, Bernardo Nathan from Cali/Colombia wrote directly to Schüürman in 1984 (Doc. 493). The documents also contain letters that were copied to Schüürman, e.g. from Dr. Walter Jacob from Porto Alegre (Brazil) to Dr. Hans Nagel in Hamburg (Doc. 146) or from the Emmerich industrialist Carl Hans von Gimborn to Rudy Kemp (Doc. 192 and 248). Schüürman also included letters and documents in his collection that the people he wrote to provided him with for his research (birth certificate, entry permit, naturalization certificate, "Heimatschein", etc.). In short, it was a Sisyphean task to bring order to the collection. In total, the newly compiled directory lists almost 750 documents. It is astonishing that Schüürman was able to keep track of this extensive correspondence with many addressees all over the world at the same time and over decades, not to mention the postage costs.

An analysis of the letters according to geographical aspects revealed that Schüürman's correspondence was spread across all continents. Correspondence with New York was particularly intensive (82 letters in both directions), followed by Anniston/Alabama (67), Sao Paulo (Brazil, 49), Cali (Colombia, 48), Birmingham/Alabama (42), Jerusalem (Israel, 28), Porto Alegre (Brazil, 23), Richmond (British Columbia, Canada, 23), Montevideo (Uruguay, 18), Herzliya (Israel, 20), Holon (Israel, 18), Atlanta/Georgia (15), Philadelphia/Pennsylvania (14), Kenton (Middlesex/England, 12), Cape Town (South Africa, 12), Novi/Michigan (8), London (6) and Clifton Gardens (Australia, 1). German cities are not included here. The list provides information on where the former Jewish inhabitants of Emmerich or their descendants settled.

The small United States town of Anniston, Alabama, around 140 kilometers west of Atlanta, Georgia, was a major settlement area. On the whole, the incoming and outgoing mail is balanced. However, it is noticeable that Herbert Schüürman received 58 letters from Ruth Taub in New York (not including her vacation greetings from all over the world) and only 24 letters from the other direction. This may have been due to the fact that Taub was at least as persistent in presenting her concerns as her addressee, but here too it cannot be ruled out that Schüürman did not keep copies of all the letters to Taub. In the lively correspondence with Rudy Kemp in Anniston, the balance is almost even at 35:32, as it is with Werner (Bernardo) Nathan and Bernd Sander in Cali (25:23). In contrast, the correspondence with Dr. Michael Heymann in Jerusalem (1:27) is like a one-way street towards Emmerich. In fact, however, Heymann often responded to requests from Schüürman, but for whatever reason he

did not send a copy.

Of course, even before Schüürman, Jews from all over the world maintained contact with their old home town. For example, Thea Nathan with her former neighboring family Meenen or with the well-known lawyer and notary Dr. Welter. Schüürman was able to secure some of these letters. Felix Nathan, also corresponded with Emmerich citizens and the city administration - which can be viewed in the Emmerich city archives. It was mostly about reparations and private matters (Doc. 403). There were individual "wires" that glowed over a great distance, while Herbert Schüürman pursued and coordinated a project in a planned manner. Private and family matters were exchanged in the letters, but were not in the foreground, even if encounters and friendships were to develop from them.

Schüürman's first contact was a request for assistance in writing the Kempenich family chronicle was dated June 26, 1983 to Rudy Kemp in Anniston, Alabama (Doc. 179). It was to be the beginning of a lifelong friendship. As a sign of trust, in 1993 Rudy Kemp sent Schüürman copies of the correspondence with his sister Erna Einstein-Kempenich, from 1930 to 1964 (Doc. 274-360). Erna Einstein's letters are particularly valuable and revealing because they describe in vivid detail the circumstances of her escape from Nazi Germany via France to the USA and clearly show her efforts to maintain her lifestyle and traditions even while on the run, for example to celebrate her son Claude's Bar Mitzvah in an appropriate setting (Doc. 323, 324, 328; on this subject also Rudy Kemp Doc. 181ff. and Erich Sander Doc. 651).

Descriptions of the so-called "Reichskristallnacht" on November 9/10, 1938 are important for the more recent history of Emmerich, for example in Emmi Loewenstern-Nathan (Doc. 478). Schüürman was particularly interested in the fate of the synagogue during the pogrom night. Schüürman had justified doubts as to whether the synagogue was actually set on fire, as reported, and interviewed contemporary witnesses (e.g. Doc. 115, 116, 182, 512, 619).

The odyssey of the magnificent Hanukkia chandelier from Emmerich to the Temple Beth El synagogue in Anniston/USA and the role played by the manufacturer Carl Hans von Gimborn is traced and the whereabouts of other liturgical utensils are traced (e.g. Doc. 37, 116, 147, 182a, 183, 191-198, 613, 617). In connection with recent excavations on the site of the former synagogue in 2021/2022, one exciting question was whether the remains of a mikveh (ritual bath) could still be documented there (Doc. 142, 143).

The deportation of over 1000 Jews from the Lower Rhine on the train from Düsseldorf to the Riga ghetto in mid-December 1941 and their rescue in the spring of 1945 in the "White Buses" by Count Bernadotte are also documented in letters (e.g. Doc. 398, 404, 488). The Jewish minority in Emmerich was also early boycotted and marginalized (Doc. 281). Individual Jewish acquaintances may have wanted to support them, but out of fear or indifference they often left it at good intentions (speech by Ruth Taub from New York in 1989 in Emmerich, Doc. 685a). But there were also people like Dr. Bisping, who behaved compassionately in difficult times (Doc. 520), and there were those who hid persecuted Jews (Doc. 569). The records of the physician Dr. Walter Jacob, who described the synagogue on Hottomannstraße and the festive services and remembered his teachers (Doc. 146), are among the most valuable contemporary documents. A great deal of space in the letters is taken up by the circumstances of flight and emigration and the often difficult new beginnings (Doc. 344). After some initial difficulties, most of them found their feet and mastered their professional and private lives. No one returned. Felix Nathan had, as Thea Nathan somewhat ironically remarked, "built up a little Emmerich" in Anniston (Doc. 399). It is interesting to see how the new citizens viewed the political and economic conditions in their second home (for Uruguay, Doc. 28, 30, 32; Colombia, Doc. 634; Brazil, Doc. 75, 100, 103 and 105).

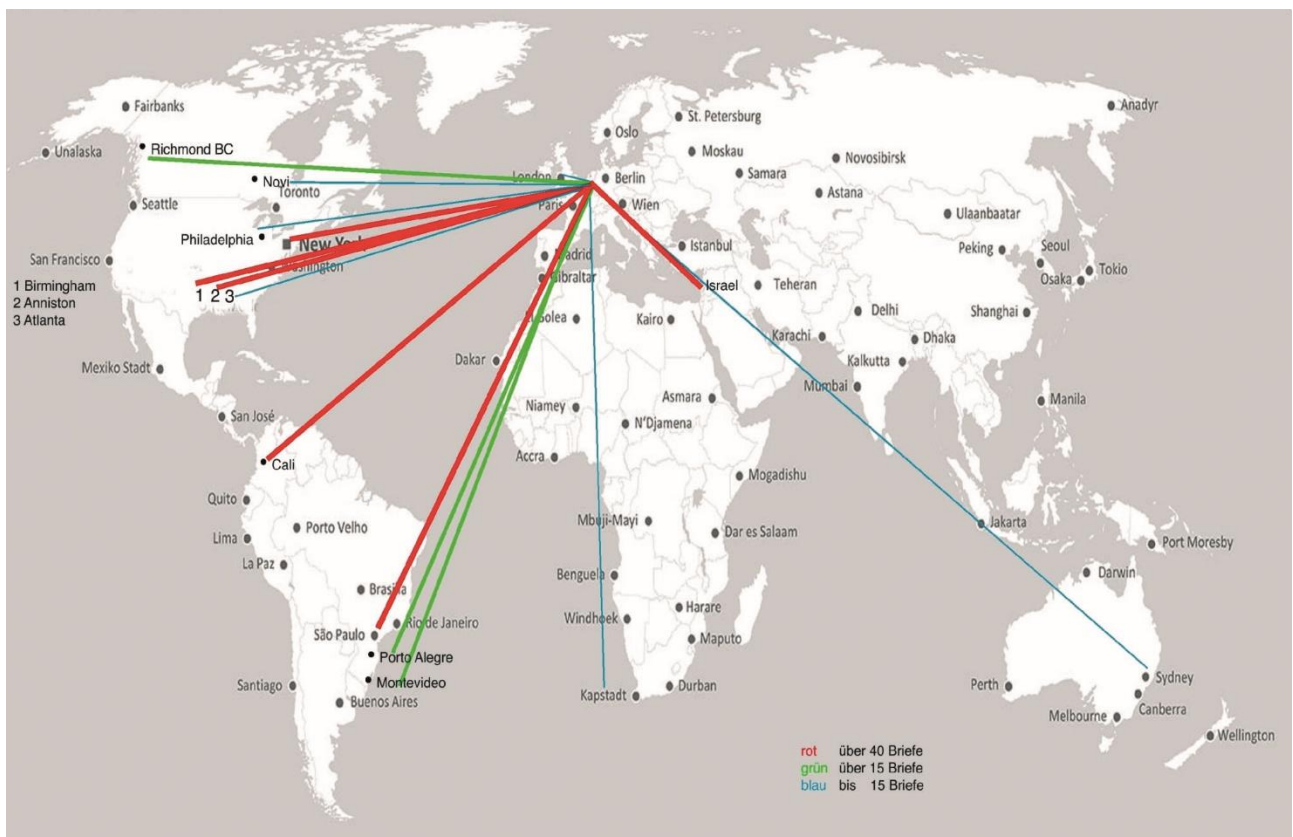
While Felix Nathan visited Emmerich several times in the 1950s and 1960s and took part in



fire department and shooting festivals, others kept their old homeland at a distance. Sophie Nathan, for example, could not imagine traveling to Emmerich again after being greeted with the words "Oh, you're still alive?" on her first and last visit after the war in her former store. (Doc. 422). Erna Drukker-Franken from Israel looked back with mixed feelings: "You can't simply forget the past and three years in a concentration camp" (Doc. 38), while Dr. Walter Jacob often thought of "good old Emmerich" even in southern Brazil and still considered himself German in Brazil (Doc. 145). Similarly, Thea Nathan: "You don't forget your old home, even if there are many bad memories associated with it" (Doc. 408).

The letters have been digitized by the Emmerich City Archive. The digitization of all relevant documents in the Schürman archive remains a task for the future in order to preserve them for future generations.

N.K.



H. Sch. or Sch.  
Orig,  
p. pp.  
Sign.  
NRZ  
RP

## **I. Letters by Jews from Emmerich, folder A-J, Sign. Ja169**

### **Albersheim collection**

1. City of Emmerich, 1 p. (issue of a "Heimatschein", German citizenship for Julia Albersheim in Porto Alegre, Brazil) 13.12.1962
2. H. Sch. to Julia Albersheim in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 1 p. (planned exhibition on Jewish families from Emmerich; request for photos) 28.12.1987
3. Julia Albersheim and Vera Albersheim-Dias from Porto Alegre/Brazil to H. Sch., 2 p. (among other things, the date of death of their father Erich Albersheim is mentioned: 8.3.1982; E.A. was a former pediatrician in Emmerich; he had "always told them good memories from his birthplace Emmerich"; unfortunately no documents about the professional ban had been found; their mother Erna A. had already died on 22.3.1987) 20.3.1988  
Excerpts printed in: Brocke/Pelzer/Schüürman: Jews in Emmerich, Emmerich 1993, p. 208
4. H. Sch. to the Albersheim-Dias family in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 2 p. (reports, among other things, that he had compiled a family tree of all (!) Jewish families once living in Emmerich; he had succeeded in bringing together family members who had not heard from each other after the war; also reports on his family) 19.4.1988
5. H. Sch. to the Albersheim-Dias family in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 1 p. (sends excerpts for correction from a planned book concerning the Albersheim family) 9.9.1992
- 6./7. Albersheim family from Porto Alegre/Brazil to H. Sch., 2 p. (family confirms having received the book "Jews in Emmerich"; report that their mother Vera A. died on 12.4.1994) 22.9.1994 and 6.10.1994
8. H. Sch. to Ernest M. Jacob in London, 1 p. (reports that descendants of Leiser Albersheim in Porto Alegre are interested in contact with the Jacob family) 1.2.1995
9. Ernest M. Jacob from London to H. Sch., 1 p. (with family tree of the Albersheim family, unfortunately not available) 7.3.1995
10. Ernest M. Jacob from London to his cousins in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 1 p. (reports private details about himself and his family and is interested in information about his cousins) 7.3.1995
11. H. Sch. to Ernest M. Jacob in London, 1 p. (thanks for information on the Albersheim family tree; question about Hans Albersheim) 21.4.1995
12. Ernest M. Jacob from London to H. Sch., 1 p. (Hans Albersheim is dead; provides addresses of sons living in Israel) 15.5.1995
13. Ernest M. Jacob from London to H. Sch. (asks whether H. Sch. has an explanation as to why he has received no reply to letters to Porto Alegre) undated

14. H. Sch. to Ernest M. Jacob in London, 1 p. (informs him that he has not heard from the Albersheim family since the visit two years ago; encloses two pages with private address and company address of Eduardo Albersheim-Dias) 25.11.1996

15. Address, telephone, fax of Caroline Jeager Drehmer, wife of Eduardo Albersheim, 1 half p. and company address of Eduardo Albersheim-Dias, 1 half p. undated

### **Kurt Franken collection**

16. Naturalization certificate, 1 p., of Kurt Josef Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay, dated 12. August 1976, issued by the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Montevideo on 10. September 1976

17. Small sheet presumably with 10 captions of pictures received by H. Sch. and proof of descent from Kurt Josef Franken, 1 p. *in Spanish*

18. Kurt Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay to Emmerich's mayor, 1 p. (inquiry as to whether the city would finance a trip to his old home town) 23.3.1988

19. Alderman Peelen to Kurt Franken in Montevideo/Uruguay, 1 p. (notification that no subsidy can be granted for a trip) 15.4.1988

20. H. Sch. to Kurt Franken in Montevideo/Uruguay, 2 p. (first letter from H. Sch. to Kurt Franken for the purpose of making contact) 25.4.1988

21 Kurt and his wife Nana Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay to H. Sch., 1 p., (including details of the biography of his parents Louis and Rosa Franken, née Sander) 21.5.1988

22. H. Sch. to Kurt Franken in Montevideo/Uruguay, 1 p. (thanks for sending pictures; still has questions about other family) 15.8.1988

23. Kurt Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay to H. Sch., 1 p. (details of uncle Max Sander, wife Erna and son Erich; question about subsidy for travel expenses) 3.9.1988

24. H. Sch. to Kurt Franken in Montevideo/Uruguay, 1 p. (announces that the city of Emmerich will invite former Jews from Emmerich in 1989; informs him that 21 former Emmerich Jews are still alive) 12.12.1988

25. Kurt Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay to H. Sch., 1 p. (mentions his mother Erna, who survived Theresienstadt, is 92 years old and lives in a retirement home in Haifa; is looking forward to seeing Emmerich again soon after more than 50 years) 15.1.1989

26. Kurt Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay to H. Sch., 1 p. (informs him, among other things, that he received an invitation from Emmerich the day before) 12.3.1989

27. H. Sch. to Kurt Franken and family in Montevideo/Uruguay, 1 p. (offers Kurt Franken "Du"; reports on what has changed in Emmerich in the meantime and has questions about Helmut Sander, Bernd Sander and Kurt's mother's parents) 24.3.1989

28. Kurt Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay to H. Sch., 1 p. (provides information about the weather conditions, galloping inflation and salaries in Uruguay, among other things) 6.7.1989

29. Kurt Franken and family from Stockholm to H. Sch. (regrets that he was unable to say goodbye to H. Sch. and thanks him for everything) 11.9.1989
30. Kurt Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay to H. Sch., 1 p. (informs him that he has already sent 10 postcards to Emmerich to say thank you; reports on the elections in Uruguay on 26.11.1989 with 126 lists; the whole city is colorfully pasted over and painted so that you can no longer see the trees: "It's like a carnival or funfair"; his two daughters, both teachers, have been on strike for a month) 17.11.1989
31. H. Sch. to Kurt Franken in Montevideo/Uruguay, 1 p. (announces newspaper cuttings, photos and letters from the Emmerich visit) 19.12.1989
32. Kurt Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay to H. Sch., 2 p. (raves about the most beautiful beach in South America; he has received mail from Colombia and even pictures from Ruth Taub, née Nathan, from New York) 21.1.1990
33. H. Sch. to Kurt and Nana Franken in Montevideo/Uruguay, 1 p. (informs him that he has forwarded the address to Max (Michael) Heymann, Jerusalem; asks about the Marchand family from Cologne and Ruth Franken, who has emigrated to Detroit) 18.3.1990
34. Kurt Franken from Montevideo to H. Sch., 1 p. (invitation to visit her in Montevideo) 20.7.1990
35. Kurt Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay to H. Sch., 2 p. (congratulations on "Fährmann"; thanks for book; nothing is known about the Marchand family) 26.2.1991
36. Kurt Franken from Montevideo/Uruguay to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on Anne Frank exhibition in Montevideo; invitation) 24.2.1993

### **Erna Drukker-Franken collection**

37. H. Sch. to Erna Drukker in Herzliya/Israel, 1 p. (H. Sch. reports that a large candlestick from the Emmerich synagogue will be sent to Anniston/USA next week; the candlestick was acquired by an Emmerich resident - the artist Bernd Terhorst - when the synagogue was dissolved in August 1938; Rudy Kempenich acquired it back through his mediation; asks whether she still knows "some former fellow believers from Emmerich") 10.2.1984  
*Erna Jacob married Mauritz Drukker from Amsterdam, was the daughter of Albert Jacob from Boxmeer and Sibilla, née Franken, from Elten - note Schüürman archive*
38. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to H. Sch., 3 p. ("One simply cannot forget the past and 3 years in a concentration camp"; remembers Paul Puetz butcher's shop and Tenholter bakery in Elten; family relationships) 25.6.1984
39. H. Sch. to Erna Drukker in Herzliya/Israel, 2 p. (writes to her that he did not want to open old wounds, but only wanted to give her a little pleasure; the more former fellow citizens of the Jewish faith he gets to know, the more he can empathize with her situation) 12.11.1984
40. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to the Tenholter family, 1 p. (describes her impressions of her visit to the Schüürman family in Emmerich and to the Tenholters in Elten and thanks them for their hospitality) 15.10.1985

41. H. Sch. to Erna Drukker in Herzliya/Israel, 1 p. (sends offers for new gravestone for her aunt Sophie Franken) 20.10.1985
42. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (decides in favor of Hoffmann company for gravestone) 15.12.1985
43. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (inquiring about the success of Schüürman's exhibition in Emmerich) undated
44. Offers from stonemason Hoffmann for renovation of Sophie Franken's grave, Emmerich, 1 p. 9.10.1985
45. Invoice from stonemason Hoffmann regarding Sophie Franken's grave, 1 p. 3.6.1986
46. Postcard from Sils (Switzerland) from Erna Drukker 24.7.1986
47. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks H. Sch. for his efforts regarding the grave and announces transfer of 744.42 DM) 28.8.1986
48. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (sends a book as a Christmas present) *undated, December 1986*
49. H. Sch. to Erna Drukker in Herzliya/Israel, 1 p. (thanks for illustrated book; reports on his well-attended lectures on Jewish families) 5.4.1987
50. H. Sch. to Erna Drukker in Herzliya/Israel, 1 p. (thanks for New Year's greetings; reports on visit from Drukker's relatives in Emmerich; plans exhibition in the Rhine Museum; is invited to America by Rudy Kempenich) 13.1.1988
51. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to H. Sch. (thanks for sending documents on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the "Reichspogromnacht") 12.12.1988
52. H. Sch. to Erna Drukker in Herzliya/Israel, 1 p. (thanks for calendar; reports on invitation from Kleve and Emmerich to former Jewish fellow citizens) 1.2.1989
53. H. Sch. to Erna Drukker in Herzliya/Israel, 1 p. (reports on visit of former Jewish fellow citizens in the district of Kleve) 20.12.1989
54. Postcard from Israel from Erna Drukker to H. Sch. (New Year's greetings) end of 1989
55. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks H. Sch. for the book and for arranging the visit of former Jewish fellow citizens) 16.2.1990
56. H. Sch. to Erna Drukker in Herzliya/Israel, 1 p. (contains family tree of the Franken family; has further questions, including about the arrest) 9.4.1990

57. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on the arrest of her husband in August 1942 and deportation of the family, then living in Winschoten/NL, to Westerbork/NL and in September 1944 to Theresienstadt concentration camp, as well as liberation by the Red Army on 5.5.1945; parents, brother and others had been active in the resistance, had been betrayed and had died in Sobibor concentration camp in June 1943) 16.7.1990

58. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for the book "Jews in Emmerich", especially for the many pictures and dates it contains; now she also knows the date of birth and death of her grandfather and wants to enter the dates in her mother's prayer book, which she owns and in which all other dates are noted) 15.3.1994

59. Dutch newspaper article, 1 p. 3.5.1995

60. Fax with dates of the Drukker family, 4 p. 13.2.1997

61. Erna Drukker from Herzliya/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (sends the data of the family members with this letter) 24.3.1997

62. Daughter Elly Maoz-Drukker from Beer-Sheva/Israel to H. Sch. (message about the death of Erna Drukker on 1.2.2006) 19.2.2006

## **Trude Hahn-Franken collection**

63. H. Sch. to a Mr. Herzberg, 1 p. (asks for address of the Franken family in Sao Paulo) 30.12.1983

*Trude Franken, born 7.3.1913 in Moers, married to Kurt Hahn, daughter of Alex Franken from Elten, married to Auguste, née Dahl; Franken later owned a textile store in Moers - note Schüürman archive*

64. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for family tree; names of family members) 27.1.1984

65. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (further details of family members; delicious speculoos from Tenholter in Elten) 27.1.1984 *presumably postdated by H. Sch. - note Schüürman archive*

66. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 2 p. (tombstones of grandparents are still well preserved; Aunt Sophie Franken was the last Jewish citizen from Elten to die of natural causes; Leuchter (Menorah) goes to Anniston/Alabama) 15.2.1984

67. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (all siblings born in Moers; visit Elten at least once a year; still have fond memories of Elten and the Eltenberg) 30.3.1984

68. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (reports that Alex Tenholter has turned 60 and that he has written to him; also written by Trude Hahn; was the most interesting letter Tenholter had received; was so enthusiastic that he wants to send Trude Hahn speculoos; should fill out a declaration for the international tracing service) 12.12.1984

69. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for the family tree; reports on the astonished faces of her son-in-law and grandchildren when they saw the family tree; high inflation in Brazil; tries to convey to her daughters her former life in Germany before Hitler;

travel not possible; received speculoos from Tenholter and ate them together with her siblings; gives permission for genealogical research) 10.1.1985

70. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (announces the dispatch of two handmade typical Brazilian pictures for H. Sch. and Mr. Tenholter: one shows the coffee harvest, the other a jangada, typical sailing boat of the fishermen) 6.2.1985

71. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (enquires about pictures; assumes that they have disappeared at the post office; reports on high inflation, postal strike; metalworkers' strike has lasted over 40 days) 24.5.1985

72. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 2 p. (apologizes that he has not yet confirmed receipt of the pictures; reports that Mr. Tenholter has received pictures from the coffee harvest because he runs a café in Elten; reports on the visit of Rudy and Grete Kempenich; encloses pictures of his silver wedding anniversary and of his grandparents' gravestones) 18.6.1985

73. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (sends photos of the Franken family, which he received and copied from Hahn's cousin Erna Drukker and from Mrs. Hetterscheid, née Pütz, and of his silver wedding anniversary; reports on the visit of Mrs. Drukker with her son and granddaughter in Emmerich and on the visit of Mrs. Taub, née Nathan from New York) 28.11.1985 *probably 28.10.1985 – note Schüürman archive*

74. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for the photos; reports on family) 29.11.1985

75. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (reports on price increases in Brazil; state adds e.g. 25% to all foreign travel; family matters) 19.8.1986

76. Trude Hahn to H. Sch. from a hotel in Rio de Janeiro/Brazil, 2 p. (congratulations on her daughter's wedding with greetings from Edith Cahnfeld and Ursel Deutsch) *undated (1987)*

77. Newspaper clipping (copy) NRZ Emmerich from 4.7.1987 from the visit of the Franken siblings in Emmerich

78. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (raves about the trip to Europe, Emmerich, Elten, Moers, Düsseldorf - visited the new "beautiful synagogue" there, the "magnificent" cathedral in Cologne, Switzerland, etc.) 8.8.1987

79. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (announces extended family tree by ship's mail, including Franken-Leyser branch) 26.8.1987

80. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on high inflation, too many unemployed, Brazil's foreign debt) 29.9.1987

81. Christmas greeting from the three Franken siblings from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (Trude Hahn has questions about the Jewish cemeteries in Emmerich; stores are empty four weeks before Christmas: "nobody has any money here") 17.11.1987

82. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (thanks for parcel with pillowcases; reports that the cemeteries are still in the same place as before; announces exhibition on Jewish families for May '88) 12.12.1987

83. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (includes Kurt Franken's address in Montevideo) 3.6.1988
84. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (also sends greetings to Mayor Wolters) 20.7.1988
85. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (thanks for spoon made of Brazilian gemstones; preparations for visit by former Jewish fellow citizens in full swing) 1.2.1989
86. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (reports on her trip to Europe) 26.7.1989
87. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (pleased that T.H. has made contact with Frankens in Montevideo) 20.12.1989
88. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn, the Cahnfeld family and the Franken family in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (thanks for Christmas greetings and notes that the circle of people with whom he is corresponding is growing; informs him of the visit of Dr. Gerhard Jacob from Porto Alegre, son of Dr. Walter Jacob; announces the publication of the book "Jews in Emmerich" in the middle of the year and reports that the old gravestones in the Jewish cemetery are being restored with financial support from the state and the city) 2.1.1993
89. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for the beautifully published book, which goes from hand to hand: "Historically speaking, it is a very sad book"; reports on new Brazilian currency) 15.3.1994
90. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (reports on trip to the USA; highlight was the Bar Mitzvah of Ben Nathan, grandson of Sophie and Heinz Nathan, in Louisville/Kentucky; on the outward flight he and his son-in-law were accompanied by Carl Hans von Gimborn, his former boss at Probat, and his wife Doris) 5.1.1996
91. Christmas card from Trude Hahn, sister Edith and brother Karl Franken to H. Sch. 5.12.1996
92. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (informs him that he has bought a computer typewriter with memory diskette and printer; the oldest document of the Franken family to date has been found in Wesel: the marriage certificate of Joseph Franken from Bettendorf and Sybille Gans from Dinxperlo/NL) 6.1.1997
93. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (wants to know how they can pay H. Sch.'s expenses: "We have been living in Sao Paulo since 1939 and no longer know what we are doing right and wrong") 26.1.1997
94. Trude Hahn and her brother Karl from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch. (reports that their sister Edith died in September after a long illness) December 1997
95. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1.S. (reports that he is still busy with Jewish family history, including David, Hirschland, Marchand, Sander, Spier, Windmüller, Plaat, Cussel, Bouscher, Herschel) 4.1.1998



96. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch. (writes that she has moved near her daughter; complains about the political and economic situation in Brazil) 23.11.1998
97. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 2 p. (complains that things are not looking good in the world and in Brazil, but hopes that everything will soon change for the better) 4.2.1999
98. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn and the Franken family in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (reports on heart surgery and rehab, among other things) 20.2.1999
99. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 2 p. (the situation in Brazil has not improved: "Our great country is suffering from unemployment, corruption, Drug trafficking etc."; a big fuss is being made about Millennium) 4.12.1999
100. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (is worried because she has not heard from Sch.; is pessimistic about economic prospects; reports heavy rainfall and landslides) 7.1.2000
101. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (reports on the visit of Alice Burkett-Nathan from Atlanta, daughter of Hertha Nathan, who had lived in Emmerich before emigrating to the USA; had given some slide presentations in the summer) 17.1.2000
102. Christmas greetings from Trude Hahn and brother in Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch. 4.12.2000
103. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch. (Brazil has the same problems as everywhere else: "It has perhaps become even more dangerous") 12/2004
104. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch. at the turn of the year, 2 p. (things are not looking any better in the world, but one must always hope for improvement) 6.12.2005
105. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 2 p. (you live in a very large and dangerous city, robberies are the order of the day, too many unemployed people and drugs, just like all over the world) 5.12.2006
106. H. Sch. to Trude Hahn in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (private matters; currently working on the Eppstein family) 10.1.2007
107. Trude Hahn from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 2 p. (she is still doing quite well at the age of 94; mourns the loss of her first daughter Ursula six months ago) 5.12.2007

### **Edith Cahnfeld-Franken collection**

108. Edith Cahnfeld from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch, 1 S. (thanks for the friendly reception at the Schüürman home; she will remember the picture of her brother saying the Kaddish at her grandfather's grave for as long as she lives; thanks the mayor for the honor of being allowed to sign the Golden Book; at the request of her niece Ursel Hamburger, she wants to write a report about the trip, which also went to Moers, to be translated into Portuguese so that all family members can read everything; she also sends the details of her son Ruy and family, whom she adopted in 1956) 10. 8.1987
- Edith Cahnfeld, born 17.6.1910 in Moers, daughter of Alex and Auguste Franken, sister of Trude*

*Hahn, married in 2nd marriage to Rudi Cahnfeld - note Schüürman archive*

109. Edith Cahnfeld from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for the book "Jews in Emmerich", which is an important document on a sad chapter; her brother Karl did not receive the book, although it is particularly important to him, as he, his three sons and five grandsons are still the only bearers of the name; the Franken family in Montevideo only has daughters) 15.3.1994

110. Edith Franken from Sao Paulo/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (reads the book with great interest; reports on her time in the Jewish school in Moers, where teacher Kahn reported that there had been pogroms in Moers as well as in Rheinberg at the time of the Crusades; she knows of a ritual murder trial against a Buschhoff family who lived in Xanten and moved to Moers; the film "Schindler's List" was well received in Brazil, there was applause) 23.3.1994

*In July 1892, a trial was held before the Kleve jury court against the alleged ritual murderer Adolf Buschhoff, who was accused of killing a Catholic boy. The trial ended with an acquittal, but Buschhoff's house in Xanten was destroyed by the mob. The family then moved to Cologne. It was not the only anti-Semitic excess at the time; see Holger Schmenk: Judenfeindschaft am Niederrhein im 19. Jahrhundert, in: Rhein-Maas. Studien zur Geschichte, Sprache und Kultur, 1st vol. 1, Duisburg 2010, pp. 244-253, as well as the comprehensive account by Peter Longerich: Antisemitismus. A German History. From the Enlightenment to the present day, Munich 2021, p. 115ff. - note Schüürman archive*

111. H. Sch. to Edith Cahnfeld in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1.p. (about riots against Jews in 1834 on the left bank of the Lower Rhine; enormous success of the film "Schindler's List") 15.4.1994

112. H. Sch. to Edith Cahnfeld in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (reports on a visit to Jewish friends in America, the Kempenichs in Alabama and the Nathans in Kentucky; the Kempenich family took the 12-meter-long family tree with them to a family reunion in New York) 25.9.1995

113. H. Sch. to Edith Cahnfeld in Sao Paulo/Brazil, 1 p. (New Year's greetings; report on slide show; Mrs. Horowitz in Richmond/USA continues to collect data on the Windmüller family because a new book on the family is to be published; H. Sch. has passed on the data of Ruy, the adopted son of Mrs. Cahnfeld, there, as his biological mother was born a Windmüller; on the letter it is handwritten that Edith Cahnfeld died in 1997) 2.1.1996

## **Dr. Michael Heymann collection**

114. Copy - presumably from the city of Emmerich - to Mr. Fritz Heymann in Nahariya/Palestine, 1 p., Missing next page (reply to an inquiry dated 14.12.1946; notification that Franz Massing, Steinstraße, died in Emmerich on 20.10.1939; the successor to the business, his son Eric, currently lives at Hauptstraße 67 in Baumberg above Langenfeld; notification that "our once so flourishing home town" has been 97% destroyed; population after the end of the war, including Klein-Netterden, was approx. 500; now resettled again. Klein-Netterden was around 500 after the end of the war; in the meantime, around 7500 inhabitants have returned, 1300 of whom lived in decent housing, all others in cellars, stables and other emergency shelters; on average, there are 6 to 8 people per room; demolition has been underway since September 1945) 8.1.1947

115. Dr. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch, 2 pp. (reply to a letter from H. Sch. dated 28.11.1983; asks for patience to answer the questions asked; briefly informs that his parents, who were already living in Nahariya/Palestine in 1938, received a letter from

Emmerich reporting the sale of the synagogue in Hottomannstraße to a furniture dealer; the "Israelitisches Familienblatt" of 25.8.1938 reported on the last service in the synagogue on 14. August 1938; transportation to Riga: only Thekla Nathan and her daughters Sophie and Emmy from Emmerich survived; Heymann is in possession of the entry from the Nathan and Gompertz company in the trade register of 29.10.1877; the founders were Rosalin Nathan, née Gompertz, and her brother Leopold, who was married to Emma, née Kempenich, his grandmother's eldest sister; Heymann was nine years old when the family left Emmerich in June 1937 and has only been there once since then, for a few hours in 1980) 2.1.1984  
*Excerpts printed in: Brocke/Pelzer/Schüürman: Jews in Emmerich, Emmerich 1993, p. 207 - note Schüürman archive*

116. Michael Heymann from the Central Zionist Archive in Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 3 S. (sends two snapshots of the Emmerich synagogue taken by his mother in the 1930s; the furniture dealer who bought the synagogue in 1938 was called Nickenig; cult objects went to a Jewish museum in Cologne, presumably Torah scrolls; Gompertz received brass candlesticks; his parents had previously received little coats for Torah scrolls<sup>1</sup> and a Torah shrine curtain to Nahariya and passed them on to the synagogue there; Felix Nathan took a Torah scroll with him to Anniston in the spring of 1937; the painter Terhorst bought the synagogue candlestick; Heymann informs where which business houses were located; at the beginning of 1934 a Purim celebration (Jewish festival commemorating the salvation of the Jews in the Achaemenid Empire) took place in a house on Kaßstraße, it was interrupted by the SS and the parents were taken to the police; in November 1938 there was only one Jewish business left in Emmerich, Leffmann am Fischerort) 22. 1.1984  
*Inquiries about the whereabouts of the Torah scrolls at the Cologne City Museum (Rita Wagner, 26.11.21), the MiQua (Franziska Gradl, 15.11. 2021), the NS Documentation Center of the City of Cologne (Birte Klarzyk, 23.11. 2021), Germania Judaica/Kölner Bibliothek zur Geschichte des Deutschen Judentums (Dr. Ursula Reuter, 18.1.2022), the Historical Archive of the City of Cologne (Jan Klein, 27.1.2022) and the Duisburg State Archive (Dr. Peter Klefisch, 16.2.2022) were unfortunately unsuccessful - note Schüürman archive*

117. Michael Heymann from the Central Zionist Archive in Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 18 pp. (thanks for letter of 26.2. 1984; hands over the documents provided to the "Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People"; reports on his father Fritz Heymann, who came to Emmerich in 1923 and was co-owner of N & G; was popular, organized annual staff outings to Hochelten; although Emmerich was a small town for him, he was very careful not to offend the conservative Catholic Emmerich residents; the saleswomen at N & G had to dress very inconspicuously, make-up was forbidden, as were large earrings; later he said to his son: "Something like that didn't fit 50 km from Kevelaer"; he goes on to write about the Jewish school, teacher Lilienfeld as well as various Jewish people about whom Sch. had obviously asked him about and had these questions answered by his mother, among others; about the suicide of David Leyser) 16.5.1984  
*Excerpts printed in: Brocke/Pelzer/Schüürman: Jews in Emmerich, Emmerich 1993, p. 207f. - note Schüürman archive*

118. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for letter dated July 20, 1984 and for photos, family trees and newspaper clippings; provides information about various Jewish people) 26.8.1984

119. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (sends additions to the Gans family tree) 19.11.1984

120. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (confirms receipt of a letter from H. Sch. and thanks him for the description of the old Jewish cemetery in Wassenbergstraße; then refers to pictures that H. Sch. sent him) 26.5.1985
121. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 5 p., and list of Jewish pupils (orig.), 1 p. (writes about time after departure from Emmerich and beginnings in Nahariya; his father had already bought a plot of land there in December 1936, on which the family later built a small house - 2 rooms - and wanted to grow fruit and vegetables and raise chickens) 1.10.1985
122. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for letter of 26.11.1985; the memorandum book cited by Kaufmann-Freudenthal is said to have been deposited in the General Archive of German Jews in Berlin in the 1920s, but was not in the archives of the General Archive, which came to light again after the war; an article by Freudenthal about the memorandum book was to appear in 1938, but the number was no longer allowed to be published; galley proofs of the article were available and are said to be on microfilm in a Jerusalem library; Heymann wants to obtain copies) 27.12.1985
123. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (informs him that he has sent the copies of the article on the memorandum book by post) 14.1.1986
124. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports that he met the President of the Federal Archives in Koblenz, Prof. Hans Booms, in Jerusalem; Booms was born in Haltern and spent his childhood in Spielberg/Leegmeer) 8.11.1986
125. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks H. Sch. for his hospitality when he and his wife spontaneously made a detour from Amsterdam to Emmerich; there used to be no town theater, Balkan restaurants and a sex show in Steinstraße; at the Geistmarkt he told his wife that there used to be a butcher Pütz here - and stood in front of his store) 21.1.1987
126. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks him for a work by Schüürman; he has only been able to look at the photos so far due to a job move; when he has read it at his leisure, he will get back to him) 23.5.1987
127. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to Mr. and Mrs. Schüürman (greetings for the New Year) 26.12.1987
128. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (pleased that the work on the gravestones will be published with the help of Prof. Brocke) 13.1.1988
129. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for sending a poster for an exhibition) 29.11.1988
130. Two letters from Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch. (cancels participation in Emmerich visit by former Jewish fellow citizens) 20.2.1989
131. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch. (New Year's greetings) 17.12.1989
132. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (reports on a letter from Ruth Taub in which she reports on her visit to Emmerich in September 1989; Erna Einstein, née

Kempenich, died at the beginning of January) 27.1.1990

133. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for documentation about the visit of former Jewish fellow citizens; thinks it is good that this visit took place; writer Josef (von) Lauff from Kalkar, who wrote a very Jewish novel over 80 years ago: *Die Tragikomödie im Hause der Gebrüder Spier*) 3.2.1990

*Joseph (von) Lauff was born on 16.11.1855 in Cologne, spent most of his childhood in Kalkar and died on 10.8.1933 in Cochem. He was a Prussian lieutenant colonel and a writer patronized by Kaiser Wilhelm II for his Prussian national dramas – note Schüürman archive*

134. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (provides information about the Gans and Spier families) 24.3.1990

135. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (saw family trees of Sch. while visiting a relative from The Hague) 28.5.1990

136. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (gives information about the Mehler, Spier and Weinberg-Carmi families) 18.10.1990

137. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (he liked the speech by Mayor Willi Heering on October 3, 1990 in Emmerich very much; he asks for the address of the Meenen cemetery nursery, as he has not yet received the invoice for the care of his grandparents' graves) 9.1.1991

138. List with numerous names, dates of birth, marriage and death of the Gans and Heymann families *undated*

139. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 3 p. (comments on the short biographies of the Heymann and Weinberg families sent by H. Sch. and provides new address) 16.4.1991

140. Four typewritten pages with addresses of the Heymann and Weinberg families *undated*

141. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (information about the Seligmann family) 8.2.1992

142. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (further information on the Spier family, synagogue, sukkah and mikvah) 7.12.1992

143. H. Sch. to Heymann family in Jerusalem/Israel, 1 p. (reference to mikvah is in a drainage plan from 1895; baths are no longer mentioned in the 1926 reconstruction; asks about the whereabouts of Dr. Siegfried Löwenstein) 25.1.1993

144. Michael Heymann from Jerusalem/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (there was no more on microfilm than he had already sent; galley proof of the article about the memorandum book has disappeared) 23.11.1993

## Dr. Walter Jacob collection

145. Dr. Walter Jacob from Porto Alegre/Brazil to Oberstudienrat Dr. Davidts, 1 p. (thanks for sending the messages from former pupils of the Staatliches Gymnasium Emmerich, no. April 1966 and August 1967; often thinks of the "good old Emmerich" and also considers himself to be German in Brazil; unfortunately he no longer has any contact with former schoolmates) 15.11. 1967

*Dr. Walter Jacob, born 2.7.1896 in Emmerich, was married to Hertha Rave, a non-Jewish woman - note Schüürman archive*

146. Dr. Walter Jacob from Porto Alegre/Brazil to Dr. Hans Nagel in Hamburg, who sent a copy to H. Sch., see end of handwritten note dated 14.3.1984, 4 p. (W. J. reports on life in the Jewish community of Emmerich; about the synagogue; description of the S. ; course of the services; festivals Rosh ha-Shanah and Yom Kippur; about teacher Jacob Carsch; about his father Siegmund; about the "strong" liberalization of the service under teacher Lilienfeld; about the meeting with David Leyser in Alsace; about the early death of his wife Hertha, née Rave, in 1969; about his schoolmate Dr. Erich Albersheim, who also emigrated to Rio Grande do Sul; about his two children Gerhard and Dorothea, both doctors; lists the names of his classmates at the Jewish elementary school in Emmerich) 20.2.1984

*Excerpts printed in: Brocke/Pelzer/Schüürman: Jews in Emmerich, Emmerich 1993, p. 207 - note Schüürman archive*

147. H. Sch. to Dr. Walter Jacob in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 3 p. (thanks him for the "beautiful, interesting and long" letter; introduces himself; explains why he is devoting himself to this "beautiful, grateful and unfortunately also sad topic"; writes that Jacob's description of the synagogue corresponds to a recently discovered construction drawing; writes that he received two pictures of the synagogue from Dr. Michael Heymann, which unfortunately are not very good, and wants to know whether J. still has pictures; reports on the reacquisition of the eight-armed candelabra from the former synagogue, which was purchased in 1938 by the artist Bernd Terhorst from Elten; Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama asked him to get the candelabra for his family: "So the candlestick is going to America next week and will find a worthy place there"; small candlesticks, Torah scrolls and curtains were saved from the dissolution in 1938 and are now in Jerusalem, USA and Colombia; reports on the teachers Carsch and Lilienfeld and the fate of other former Jewish fellow citizens; inquires about the family of Dr. Erich Albersheim) 26.3.1984

148. Dr. Walter Jacob from Porto Alegre/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (reports on his father, the merchant Siegmund Jacob, who was, among other things, a member of the council and district council, chairman of the DDP (German Democratic Party) in Emmerich and honorary chairman of the AOK Emmerich; description of the Jewish elementary school on the Brink; encloses some photos) 25.4.1984

149. Dr. Walter Jacob from Porto Alegre/Brazil to H. Sch., 2 p. (spidery handwriting due to almost complete blindness; writes that the fate of the Emmerich Jews was very close to his heart and he thanks "fate for taking me to Brazil as early as 1935") 24.5.1984

150. H. Sch. to Dr. Walter Jacob in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 2 p. (thanks him for the pictures; the people who knew him always spoke very highly of him; reports on the planned exhibition on the Pogrom Night and asks for more photos) 11.10.1984

151. H. Sch. to Dr. Walter Jacob in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 1 p. (reports on the visits of the Kempenich couple and Ruth Taub, née Nathan, from New York; new findings about the Jewish cemetery on Wassenbergstraße; the oldest gravestones, some of which are only fragments, date from the 17th century, five bear the Emmerich bucket) 16.12.1985
152. Carl Meulemann from Düsseldorf to the Emmerich Historical Society, 1st p. (refers to information in the circular of the Historical Society that a son of Max Kempenich had visited Emmerich; encloses a 72-year-old photo - 1914 - of the garden of the hospital's isolation ward with scarlet fever patients, including Walter Jacob) 3.11.1986
153. Lawyer Dr. Welter from Emmerich about the Heymann-Weinberg and Siegmund Jacob families 8.2.1967
154. H. Sch. to Dr. Walter Jacob in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 1 p. (informs him that he has compiled a book on the lives and fates of Emmerich Jews, which he would like to give to him; also informs him that a memorial for the former Jewish fellow citizens was erected a year ago) 12.11.1987  
*This probably refers to the memorial stone that was erected in 1985 at the cemetery of honor on Friedensstraße and commemorates the disenfranchisement, expulsion and extermination of Jewish fellow citizens between 1933 and 1945 - note Schüürman archive*
155. Dorothea Jacob-Ferlin for her father Dr. Walter Jacob (91) to H. Sch. (expresses gratitude that old Emmerich residents are still inquiring about his well-being) 29.11.1987
156. H. Sch. to Dr. Walter Jacob in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 1 p. (asks to hand over the enclosed letter to Julia Albersheim) 28.12.1987
157. Dr. Walter Jacob from Porto Alegre/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (provides address of Julia Albersheim in Porto Alegre; encloses photo of his wife Hertha) *undated*
158. illegible letter from Dr. Walter Jacob from Porto Alegre/Brazil with handwritten transcription from his daughter Dorothea Ferlin, née Jacob (original and copy) to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanking him for the book, which his father spends many hours leafing through attentively) 14.1.1988
159. H. Sch. to Dr. Walter Jacob in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 1 p. (reports that Kleve and Emmerich want to invite all former Jewish fellow citizens in September; according to his research, 21 former Jewish fellow citizens from Emmerich were still alive) 1.2.1989
160. H. Sch. to Louise Rave in Heidelberg (Dr. Jacob's sister-in-law), 1 p. (announces a book by the Historical Society about Jewish families from Emmerich; has questions about the enclosed pictures; inquires about the date of Dr. Jacob's death and biographical details) 6.1.1990
161. Louise Rave from Heidelberg to H. Sch., 2 p. (informs, among other things, that her brother-in-law Dr. Jacob died on 30.11.1988) 3.5.1990
162. H. Sch. to Dorothea Ferlin, née Jacob, in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 1 p. (calls the letters of her deceased father "contemporary documents of great value" and informs about the grave of her grandparents; is interested in further family photos etc.) 2.7.1990

163. Lavinia Bruneau, niece of W. J., from Collonges au Mont d'Or/France, to the Meenen cemetery nursery in Emmerich, 1 p. (gives her address for the invoice for grave care) 30.5.1990

164. H. Sch. to Lavinia Bruneau in Collonges au Mont d'Or/France, 1 p. (sends pictures of her grandparents; he would like information about her parents and photos for the planned book "Jews in Emmerich") 21.8.1991

165. Original in English, with translation by Lavinia Bruneau from Collonges au Mont d'Or/France to H. Sch., 1 p. (her parents had never spoken about the fact that her mother Else Schrade, née Jacob, was in fact Jewish, presumably because "strong anti-Semitic behavior prevailed throughout the world long before the war"; only long after the war did her cousins Dorothea and Gerhard in Porto Alegre inform her about the family background; corrections to the family biography) 26.9.1991

166. H. Sch. to Lavinia Bruneau in Collonges au Mont d'Or/France, 1 p. (considers it "interesting" that her mother Else had concealed her Jewish origins, although the Jacob family was very respected in Emmerich and both her mother and her uncle Walter had married non-Jews, which was still very rare at that time; asks for a family picture and wants to know whether the mother had ever been back in Emmerich after the emigration) 21.11.1991

167. Copy in English, with translation by Lavinia Bruneau from Collonges au Mont d'Or/France to H. Sch., 2 p. (informs that her mother Else is blind and it is impossible to talk to her about the past; gives further details of the family biography and her husband Jean Bruneau, who was active in the Resistance and was in Dachau concentration camp; after the war, her mother and Uncle Walter were in Emmerich to visit her parents' grave; even after the war, her mother never spoke about her parents and her childhood) 26.11.1991

168. H. Sch. to Gerhard Jacob in Porto Alegre/Brazil, 1 p. (with photos of the family on her father's side; asks for the short biography to be checked) 14.12.1992

169. Gerhard Jacob from Porto Alegre/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (closes further gaps in the short biographies) 26.12.1993

170. Copy with translation from Lavinia Bruneau from Collonges au Mont d'Or/France to H. Sch., 1 p. (is deeply moved "by your wonderful book"; book contains a "treasure trove of information" and is a document of historical, sociological and above all humanitarian value and a reminder of the tragedy of so many Jewish families"; mentions the "eagerly awaited" trial of Paul Touvier, a "repulsive figure in French history" - by no means the only one - who was responsible for the deportation and murder of many Jews) 17.3.1994

*Paul Touvier, born in 1915, was only sentenced to life imprisonment in 1994 and died in 1996 - note Schüürman archive*

171. Gerhard Jacob from Porto Alegre/Brazil to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks him for the book "Jews in Emmerich" and congratulates him on it; mentions that Vera Albersheim, youngest daughter of Dr. Erich Albersheim, had died) 24.5.1994

172. Curriculum vitae on Prof. Dr. Gerhard Jacob with mention of his achievements and awards in Brazil and Germany *author unknown*



173. Mourning card Else Schrade, died at the age of 95 on 18.4.1996; also handwritten card (original) dated 3.6.1996 in English from her daughter Lavinia from Collonges au Mont d'Or/France (thanks for the book, among other things)

174. H. Sch. to Lavinia Bruneau in Collonges au Mont d'Or/France, 1 p. (condolences and invitation) 28.8.1996

## **II. Letters by Jews from Emmerich, folder Rudy Kemp, Sign. Ja170**

175. "Bringing home a 170-year-old Jewish tradition", article (copy) by Sally Brewer in the newspaper "The Anniston Star" about the transportation of the Emmerich Hanukkah candelabra to Anniston and the role of Herbert Schüürman and Rudy Kemp 2.9.1984

176. Affidavit (copy), German, by Rudy Kemp dated June 10, 1955, 3 pp. in total (with biographical data)

177. Excerpt from handwritten letter (transcript and copy) from Toni (Anton) Beckschaefer from Emmerich to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (wants to know more about the contacts between his father Alwin and merchant Max Kempenich, who both belonged to the Duisburg/Wesel Chamber of Commerce founded in 1919) 23.7.1967

178. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to the mayor of Emmerich, Willi Pieper, 4 p. (Memories of "Haus Kempenich", which apparently must have made an unkempt and "dilapidated" impression when the entrepreneur Eugen Reintjes drove past the well-known villa in 1967; informed about the whereabouts of emigrated Jewish families: Nathan, Franken, Gompertz, etc.) 7.9.1969

179. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (asks for help in compiling the Kempenich family chronicle) 26.6.1983

180. Erna Einstein, née Kempenich, from Cleveland/Ohio to her brother Rudy Kemp in Anniston (without signature), 2 p. (answers H. Sch.'s questions about the family history; describes contacts and social commitment of the parents in Emmerich); note by H. Sch. from Erna Einstein's letter) 24.8.1983

181. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch, 6 p. (describes escape in December 1937 over the wooden Wild Bridge, first to Holland, then to the USA; they no longer felt safe, although they had paid the so-called Reich Flight Tax of 16,250 RM; answers questions from H. Sch. about family history; asks about the reason for the great interest in Germany, e.g. in Geldern, for books about Jews; gives H. Sch. address of M. Heymann) 24.8.1983ff.

182. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 4 p. (introduces himself to Rudy Kemp; asks for copy of receipt for Reich flight tax and for data on the Kempenich-Gompertz family chronicle; writes that one can read about the Emmerich synagogue; he also searched in vain for a photo of the interior or exterior, and he was not sure whether the synagogue had actually burned during the "Reichskristallnacht" or whether it was already a furniture warehouse at that time; handwritten addition) 15.10.1983

*In older literature, such as Heinz Evers: Straßen in Emmerich, Cologne 1977, p. 169, Leo Gies: Zur Geschichte der Juden, insbesondere der jüdischen Gemeinde in der Stadt Emmerich, Emmerich 1979, p. 64, ders.: Die Juden in Emmerich, in: Kalender für das Klever Land auf das Jahr 1979, Kleve 1978, pp. 162-170, p. 168, Wilhelm Huybers: Emmericher Geschichten, Emmerich o.J. (1983), p. 176, and in Hannelore Künzl: Die Synagoge zu Emmerich von 1812, in: Trumah I/1987, pp. 213-221, p. 220, it is reported without evidence that the Emmerich synagogue went up in flames on the night of the pogrom on November 9/10, 1938, had to be set on fire by the Jews themselves or was devastated. A corresponding note by Rector Leopold Krudewig can be found in the Emmerich town archives. It is possible that the authors only read the headline of an article by Herbert Seegers in the NRZ Emmerich of November 8, 1958: "Jews had to set fire to the*

synagogue". The text itself then makes it clear that the synagogue in Rees was meant, which had to be set on fire by two remaining Jews from Rees. In an interview she gave to a local American newspaper in the 1970s, Sophie Nathan also mentions the destruction of the Emmerich synagogue in 1938, but Sophie was in Cologne at the time, see Doc. 416 and 426. In view of the scarcity of sources, H. Sch. had doubts about the version of the burning synagogue. H. Sch. found decisive proof that this could not be true in the article "Der letzte Gottesdienst" from the "Israelitische Familienblatt" of August 25, 1938, which Michael Heymann (Jerusalem) sent him in 1984, see Doc. 116. It briefly reports that the last service was held in the "old, beautiful house of God last Sunday in a solemn manner" and that the synagogue had been sold. If the date given in the article is correct, the service must have taken place on August 21 and not, as Heymann and others believe, on August 14 or 20, 1938. A Belgian eyewitness, whose impressions were printed in foreign newspapers two days after the pogrom night, writes nothing about any excesses against the synagogue. The article from "De Maasbode" is also printed in the documentation for Herbert Schüürman's exhibition "Jewish families in Emmerich". When some witnesses (municipal employees and the local fire department) were questioned by the Emmerich police in October 1945 and the "Judenaktion" was tried before the Kleve jury court in 1950, there was also no mention of a destroyed or burning synagogue, cf. Brocke/C.Pelzer/ H.Schüürman: *Juden in Emmerich*, Emmerich 1993, pp. 190-195. The Schüürman archive contains a copy of a letter dated October 13, 1985 from Maria Reuter, née Hunck, from Hofheim, who lived with her family in the second house next to the synagogue in 1938. She writes: "The synagogue did not burn. It was a terraced house, firmly attached to two neighboring houses. It would have been stupid to set it on fire. On the morning after Kristallnacht, I left my father's house in Hottomannstraße shortly before 7 a.m., as I did every morning. I had to catch the ferry at 7.10 a.m. and take the streetcar to Kleve to the Johanna Sebus School. The synagogue looked no different to any other day. The door was locked and undamaged, as were the windows. But the next house, which stood next to the synagogue, had smashed windows. Torn curtains fluttered out and as I passed by I saw that the furniture in the house had been smashed. An old Jewish couple lived here." However, M.R. mentions that the synagogue was already a furniture warehouse the last service was held in the "old, beautiful house of God last Sunday in a solemn manner" and the synagogue had been sold. If the date given in the article is correct, the service must have taken place on August 21 and not, as Heymann and others believe, on August 14 or 20, 1938. A Belgian eyewitness, whose impressions were printed in foreign newspapers two days after the pogrom night, writes nothing about any excesses against the synagogue. The article from "De Maasbode" is also printed in the documentation for Herbert Schüürman's exhibition "Jewish families in Emmerich". When some witnesses (municipal employees and the local fire department) were questioned by the Emmerich police in October 1945 and the "Judenaktion" was tried before the Kleve jury court in 1950, there was also no mention of a destroyed or burning synagogue, cf. Brocke/C.Pelzer/ H.Schüürman: *Juden in Emmerich*, Emmerich 1993, pp. 190-195.

According to Dr. Hans Nokielski from Essen on 1.11.1983, the synagogue did not burn during the "Reichskristallnacht" and was not damaged. Nokielski received this information from his mother Elisabeth Nokielski, née Nathan. The Nathan family lived next door to the synagogue at Hottomannstraße 11. After the pogrom night, children had broken the windows of their apartment, see above. In more recent literature, e.g. Elfi Pracht Jörns: *Jüdisches Kulturerbe in Nordrhein-Westfalen, Teil II: Regierungsbezirk Düsseldorf*, Cologne 2000, p. 317, Irmgard Hantsche: *Atlas zur Geschichte des Niederrheins*, Essen 1999 (= Schriftenreihe der Niederrhein-Akademie, Vol. 4), p. 168f. and: *Feuer an Dein Heiligtum gelegt. Zerstörte Synagogen 1938 in Nordrhein-Westfalen*, compiled by the Salomon Ludwig Steinheim-Institut für deutsch-jüdische Geschichte, edited by Michael Brocke, Bochum 1999, p. 150ff., the more recent research results are taken into account, as well as in the new edition of the "Straßen-Buch" by H. Evers, edited by Walter Axmacher (Emmerich 2012, Part II, p. 674). The fact that the synagogue in Emmerich was not touched does not detract one iota from the crimes committed by the Nazis before,

*during and after the pogrom night - note Schüürman archive*

182a. Memo from the Emmerich city archivist Hans Reimann dated May 20, 1963 after a conversation with Fritz Heymann from Nahariya/Israel (he, Heymann, had made it a condition before his departure that if the last Jewish inhabitants were to dissolve the Israelite community, the Torah curtains would be taken with them; he had, for example sent the curtains and blankets, which his parents-in-law had donated, to Nahariya; he had spoken to Moritz Sander by chance, and he had said that he had also taken chandeliers with him; the whereabouts of the other silver items were unknown to him; the painter Bernd Terhorst had bought the old Dutch chandelier when the synagogue was dissolved. The synagogue had been sold by the two old men Georg and Siegfried Nathan and had then been used as a furniture store by Karl Nickenig; in the synagogue there had been a marble plaque with the names of the Jewish fallen of the First World War from Emmerich; Moritz Sander had photographs of the interior and exterior of the synagogue; the house of the court financier of the Duke of Cleves, Elija Emmerich Gompertz, who died in 1689, had originally stood on the site where the Emmerich synagogue on Hottomannstrasse had once stood) 20.5.1963  
*Subsequently recorded in the Schüürman archive; memorandum of conversation StA Emmerich, fonds VI C-9*

183. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (his wife Grete, née Nathan, would like to know whether Bernd Terhorst would like to sell the Hanukkia, she would like to give it to the local synagogue in memory of her father and mother; two small candlesticks had already been given to the synagogue by Thea Nathan and her children; adds that Dr. Walter Jacob, now Brazil, was among the emigrated Emmerich Jews) 8.12.1983

183a. "The story of the menorah of Emmerich", typed by Rudy Kemp from Anniston (copy), 2 p. *Subsequently added to the Schüürman archive, undated*

183b. Sherry Blanton: Survivor's Stories: Anniston's Temple Beth El and the Holocaust: Rudolph (Rudy) Kempenich (Kemp) 1911-1999, 8 pp. (Stages in the lives of Rudy and Greta Kemp based on an interview with the author on June 29, 1996: Odyssey of the eight-branched Hanukkia candlestick from Emmerich) - retrieved online on January 9, 2022 *subsequently added to the Schüürman archive*

184. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to the Emmerich entrepreneur Carl Hans von Gimborn, 2 p. (thanks for the book shipment of the "Annalen" by A. Dederich; informs about the death of his mother-in-law Nathan; he has found many letters and pictures of old Emmerich residents: "It is a pity that we thought of it so late, that there was still interest in it in Emmerich") 9./13.12.1983

185. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (corrects some of Kemp's information on the Franken and Nathan families; asks Kemp to put in a good word for him with Dr. Jacob in Porto Alegre, as he apparently "has not forgotten the terrible time of persecution and therefore does not like to be written to from Germany") 2.1.1984

186. Dr. Hans Nagel from Hamburg to H. Sch., 1 p. (has no interest in further books from Emmerich; at the time he supervised the three Kemp boys with their schoolwork) 10.1.1984

187. H. Sch. to Dr. Hans Nagel in Hamburg, 1 p. (wants to know whether Nagel has connections to the Hamburg Jewish community and can find out anything about Dr. Max Nathan, who is said to have been a rabbi in Hamburg) 10.1.1984

188. Original with letter envelope, copy from Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (asks whether Sch. would like to draw up a family tree of the Hagedorn family from the Sauerland, because Mrs. Nathan's mother was born a Hagedorn) 18.1.1984
189. Dr. Hans Nagel from Hamburg to H. Sch., 2 p. (asks for the address of Dr. W. Jacob, with whom he was friends until 1935) 25.1.1984
190. H. Sch. to the artist Bernd Terhorst, Emmerich, 1 p. (asks whether Terhorst would like to sell the chandelier to Rudy Kemp) 25.1.1984
191. H. Sch. to Dr. Hans Nagel in Hamburg, 1 p. (informs him of Dr. Jacob's address in Brazil, perhaps Nagel could ask Jacob later whether he still has pictures of the Emmerich synagogue; also informs him that he has today acquired a candlestick from this synagogue for Mr. Kemp) 29.1.1984
192. The Emmerich businessman Carl Hans von Gimborn to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (promises to pack and send the candlestick as "a matter of course") 3.2.1984
193. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (conveys the "joyful news" that he was able to acquire the candlestick from Mr. Terhorst's synagogue; has given it to Schüürman for 150 DM; Mr. von Gimborn is prepared to send the candlestick to America via his company) 11.2.1984
194. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to C. H. von Gimborn, 4 p. (reports on two candlesticks that went to the Georg Nathan family after the dissolution of the synagogue, survived the pogrom night and four and a half years in a concentration camp and finally ended up in the synagogue in Anniston; the candlesticks bear the inscription "Synagoge Emmerich a/Rh. 12. July 1812-14. August 1938. Donated to Temple Beth-El in honor of the 50th wedding of Mr. & Mrs. Felix Nathan by Mrs. Nathan. & Mrs. Felix Nathan by Mrs. Thea Nathan, Sophie & Henry Nathan, Emmi & Hans Loewenstern"; in addition, the synagogue still owned two silver Jads - "pointers" - bookmarks - for the Torah, which also came from the Emmerich synagogue; enclosed with the letter is a site plan by Erna Einstein of the store Nathan & Gompertz, Steinstraße, and a picture of the gate) 14.2.1984
195. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (about the menorah, the Hanukkah festival and his wedding to Grete in 1935: "We do have the feeling that we have saved a piece of the old home, the old community, the old synagogue of our youth and our parents and that this candlestick will once again have a place of honor in our new synagogue (...) I believe many had the feeling that something stolen by the Nazis had been preserved and saved") 21.2.1984
196. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (encloses blank checks for Bernd Terhorst and H. Sch.; announces delivery of inserts, Nathan family tree, photos, etc.) 21.2.1984
197. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (answers several questions; explains Jewish cemetery customs) 23.2.1984
198. H. Sch. and C. H. von Gimborn to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (inform about planned shipment of the candlestick by air freight) 21.3.1984

199. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to C. H. von Gimborn and H. Sch., 2 p. (answers questions about the transportation of the Hanukkia and customs formalities; agrees to leave it at a bouquet of flowers for Bernd Terhorst's housekeeper; he and the entire Jewish community are impatiently awaiting the arrival of the candelabrum) 30.3.1984
200. Original newspaper clipping and typewritten translation of the article in "The Anniston Star" of 2.9.1984: "A 170-year-old Jewish tradition was brought home"
201. Original newspaper clipping from "The Anniston Star" of April 14, 1986 with photo of the synagogue in Anniston/Alabama, apparently from Rudy Kemp to H. Sch.
202. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 3 p. (tells, among other things, that the shipment of the candelabra to Anniston almost fell through and the city of Emmerich would have bought the candelabra from Terhorst for the town hall, but this deal was pre-empted: "Today we are all glad that it turned out this way and that the candelabra has found its place there, for which it was intended from the beginning") 4.6.1984
203. Translation and copy of the original of a letter (copy) apparently from Rudy Kemp to Sophie Nathan (corrections, additions to the report in "The Anniston Star") 9.12.1984
204. Report by H. Sch. on how he came to be involved with Jewish families; also on the book "Jews in Emmerich", exhibitions, lectures etc., 3rd p.  
*Addressee unknown, undated, probably written in the mid/late 1990s - note Schüürman archive*
205. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p., incomplete (asks to complete or correct family tree) 1984
206. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p., apparently incomplete (informs that he cashed Kemp's checks for a total of 467 marks; has questions about the Nathan family) 9.10.1984
207. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 6 p. (answers questions about the Nathan family history; also reports that he had the menorah repaired at his own expense for 900 dollars; the candelabra is to be presented to the synagogue during a service for Hanukkah on 21.12.) 23.10.1984
208. Rudy Kemp from vacation spot in Florida to H. Sch., 2 p. (shares data on the Hagedorn family; vacation impressions) 30.10.1984
209. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (handing over the candelabrum may be "a greeting from the old homeland", "which you all loved and yet had to leave": "If you now light the candles of the candelabrum after an interruption of almost 50 years, may its lights help to forgive what has happened and continue to shine for peace and reconciliation among all people") 6.12.1984  
*H. Sch. once again demonstrates great empathy here, which did not go unnoticed by Kemp and others - note Schüürman archive*
210. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 1 p. (preparations for trip to Europe; also wants to visit Emmerich; captions to class photo from July 1916) 26.4.1985
211. C. H. von Gimborn to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (confirms reservation at the Waldhotel Hochelten from 14.-16.6.1985) 3.5.1985

212. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to C. H. von Gimborn, 2 p. (thanks for hospitality; accepts telephone "Du") 6.6.1985
213. Newspaper article NRZ Emmerich (Orig.) from 18.6.1985 about the reception for Rudy and Grete Kemp in Emmerich City Hall: "Mr. and Mrs. Kemp: Contacts to Emmerich remain" 18.6.1985
214. Newspaper article from the Rheinische Post Emmerich (copy) from June 17/18, 1985 about the reception for Rudy and Grete Kemp in the town hall: "Building bridges – overcoming divisions" 17./18.6.1985
215. Newspaper article Stadtanzeiger Emmerich from 27.6.1985: "Grete Kemp visited her hometown Emmerich" 27.6.1985
216. Newspaper article RP Emmerich, without date (around 10.10.1985: "Golden wedding: From Borghees to America")
217. C. H. von Gimborn to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (wishes that the established relationship would continue) 20.6.1985
218. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to the Sch. family, 2 p. (thanks them for their hospitality; reports on the problems with their emigration at the time, they had to leave their money in a "blocked account" and never saw any more of it) 11.7.1985
219. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (recalls the highlights of the Kemps' trip in Emmerich: "Those were days that we did not want to forget. and for me it was the culmination of my work") 17.7.1985
220. Mr. Henrici to H. Sch. (informs him of the death of Rudy and Grete Kemp's grandson Jonathan in a tragic car accident) 15.8.1985
221. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (congratulates him on his golden wedding anniversary; sends a drawing of the synagogue as a gift; reports on Ruth Taub-Nathan's visit and that the acquaintance turned out to be quite friendly after an initial distance) 9.10.1985
222. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 3 p. (thanks for comforting words on the death of 16-year-old grandson Jonathan; reports on golden wedding anniversary and granddaughter Lisa's batmitzvah in Fort Worth, encounters on vacation, etc.) 12.12.1985
223. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (reports on the inauguration of the newly paved Steinstrasse; gives a speech on the subject, and also wants to talk about the Jewish fellow citizens who helped shape Steinstrasse) 3.4.1986
224. Article with obituary from the RP Emmerich of 19.8.1986: "The painter Bernd Terhorst died at the age of 92"

225. C. H. von Gimborn - with copy to H. Sch. - to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (admits that he greatly appreciates the connection to the Kemps; about family events) 9.10.1986

*The letter is typical of v. Gimborn's laconic-ironic humor - note Schüürman archive*

226. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (reports on an exhibition planned for 1988 in the Rhine Museum on Jewish families; encloses photos of the new memorial at the cemetery) 14.12.1987

227. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (reports on correspondence concerning the Nathan-Elten and Kurt Franken families in Montevideo/Uruguay and his planned exhibition in September 1988, for which C. H. von Gimborn is to give the opening speech) 3.6.1988

228. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (encloses a letter for Heddy Rabe-Gompertz for translation and forwarding; reports on the visit of Werner Nathan, his wife and brother-in-law Gotthilf Nokielski in Emmerich) 30.6.1988

229. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 3 p. (he and two or three other Jews had belonged to a bowling club in Emmerich until the Nazis had forbidden participation, whereupon they had founded their own Jewish bowling club in a restaurant on Steinstraße, until the landlord informed them that he was not allowed to let Jews bowl, whereupon they had gone to Dinxperlo/NL once or twice a month; Erich Nathan, Richard Gompertz, Mr. Schönfeldt, Louis Franken, Moritz Sander, Rudolf Weinberg, Fritz Herz and Fritz Heymann also belonged to the bowling club) 6.7.1988

230. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (informs about the planned invitation of the cities of Emmerich, Kleve and Kalkar to former Jewish fellow citizens) 12.2.1989

231. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to Emmerich's mayor Norbert Giltjes, 1 p. (canceling participation for September due to bar mitzvah of grandson Michael Ginsberg in Fort Worth/Texas with regret) 23.3.1989

232. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (encloses pictures of Jewish Emmerich residents; some corrections to Schüürman's book, "and we are also grateful that you have made the memory of our homeland a little easier, since we now know that there were also good people during the Hitler era") 15.8.1989

233. John F. Rohe from Petoskey/Michigan to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p., and translation into German (sends original book by H. Sch. (?) and photo from the book, etc.) 25.10.1989

234. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (encloses video recording of the reception of the Jewish guests in Emmerich City Hall; condolences on the death of sister Erna; asks for photo of the Judaica from the Emmerich synagogue, e.g. Torah scroll and Torah pointing finger, which father Felix Nathan took with him when he emigrated to the USA; encloses newspaper clipping from the Fährmann award ceremony) 20.2.1990

235. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 1 p., (informs about his planned trip to Europe with a train stop in Emmerich) 15.7.1990



236. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (congratulating him on his 80th birthday) April 1991
237. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to Hubert Meenen, Chairman of the Emmerich Historical Society, 2 p. (reports on his birthday party, attended by 41 descendants of Emmerich families) 25.6.1991
238. Various copies of program items for Rudy Kemp's big birthday party, order of events, song lyrics, etc. , 4 p. 1991
239. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on the many visits after his 80th birthday, etc.; back of copy of "The Kemp Octogenaricgazette") 28.6.1991
240. Card from Puerto de la Cruz (Tenerife) from Rudy Kemp, Michelle and Lisa to H. Sch. 1/1992
241. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (announces the final publication of the book on the Jews in Emmerich; the gravestones in the old Jewish cemetery on Wassenbergstraße are being restored; asks for the relevant passages in the book on the Kempenich family to be checked) 12.1.1993
242. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (information on the "blue-blooded" ancestors of the Kempenich family) 19.5.1993
243. Diary-notes by Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama about events at the end of 1993/beginning of 1994 in connection with the Schüürman book, 4 p. *undated, 1994*
244. Diary-notes by Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama 1993/1994, 3 p. (information about the Schüürmann book: edition 1400 copies, 700 for club members and gifts, 700 for sale at 49 DM each) 1994
245. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 4 p. (resolutions for 1994; detailed content of the book; missed the turn of the year while reading it!) 1/1994
246. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 5 p. (announces, among other things, the delivery of Erna's letters 1930-1970; encloses his diary notes in English from 30.12.1993 to 17.2.1994) 13.2.1994ff.
247. Text of "The Rudy Rap", performed by Gil Kempenich and John Rohe on Rudy Kemp's 80th birthday in 1991, 4.p., without sender (presumably R. Kemp) *undated*
248. C. H. von Gimborn to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 3 p. (encloses manuscript of a lecture; has difficulties with the movie "Schindler's List" by Steven Spielberg and does not want to watch it because it might trigger too many emotions in himself and Doris: "(... ) the reality was much, much worse"; on the other hand, he praises Primo Levi's "authentic reporting on the appallingly humiliating and cruel conditions in a labor concentration camp"; "seen in this light, my imagination is enough; on the "criminal" attack on the synagogue in Lübeck, etc.: "There should be no forgetting if we don't want to experience another catastrophe") 31.3.1994

249. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (encloses check for DM 513 for nine books "Jews in Emmerich" and addresses to which the books should be sent) 9.4.1994
250. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on various visits and contacts, including Henrici, Windmüller etc. and encloses 200 DM for possible travel expenses) 9.12.1994
251. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (announces trip to Anniston with son-in-law Peter Schütte and von Gimborns for February; wants to bring his "huge family tree" of the Hela Windmüller-Selig Kempenich family") 7.1.1995
252. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (thanks him for his hospitality; reports that he spoke about Judaism in high school) 3.4.1995
253. H. Sch. to Rudy and Greta Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (congratulates them on their 60th wedding anniversary; encloses drawing with exterior view of the synagogue; on the reverse notice from H. Sch. about his trip to the USA, which was a "great experience" for him) 9.10.1995
254. Rudy and Greta Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 1 p. (personal matters; visits) end of 1995
255. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 1 p. (in English; encloses photos of visit in February; brochure Tape-Craft.; founded in 1946) 6.6.1996
256. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (reports having purchased a computer typewriter with inkjet printer and diskette) 6.1.1997
257. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (reports on his research work, which still gives him a lot of pleasure despite all the problems with all kinds of authorities) 11.10.1997
258. H. Sch. to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (tries to save his research on floppy disks) 4.1.1998
259. Online greeting card from Rudy and Greta Kemp to H. Sch. 21.5.1999
260. H. Sch. to Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (thanks for generous check) 8.1.2001
261. H. Sch. to Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (encloses family photo) 10.1.2006
262. Note Schüürman archive with the death dates of Rudy and Greta Kemp 28.11.2021
263. Copy of a newspaper article from "The Anniston Star" about the history of the Menorah from Emmerich
264. Newspaper article (copy) from 5.5.1984 "Holocaust's horrors remembered" from "The Anniston Star" with Kemp's memories of the Nazi era: "You can't hate forever, hate destroys you"

265. Copy with the "Ballad to Rudy", by a Jutta (?), 2 p., Atlanta Swiss Hotel, date unknown, most likely for Rudy Kemp's 80th birthday in 1991

266. Newspaper article (orig.) from 17.7.1999 and 19.7.1999 from "The Anniston Star" on the death of Rudy Kemp

267. Newspaper article (original) from "The Anniston Star" from 6.11.1993: "Temple Beth-El honors Kemp for contributions to community"

268. Speech by Hyman Gordon honoring Rudy Kemp in 1993, 5 pp.

269. Hans W. Rosenthal from Clifton Gardens/Australia to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on his professional career as a journalist in Australia and Europe and his family roots) 12.12.1983

270. Hans W. Rosenthal from Clifton Gardens/Australia to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 4 . p., with translation (among other things about the Windmüller clan, Richard Gompertz, his professional career etc.; originally from Gevelsberg) 8.12.1984

### **III. Letters by Jews from Emmerich, folder Erna Einstein-Kempenich/Kurt Leyser, Sign. Ja17**

#### **Erna Einstein-Kempenich collection**

271. Copies from the Geldrischer Heimatkalender, year unknown, 5 p. (letter from Erna Einstein, née Kempenich, in which she reports on the fate of her large family)

*Erna Kempenich, older sister of Rudy Kempenich, was married to Alfred Einstein, who was born in Buchau in Württemberg in 1903 and died in Cleveland/Ohio in 1968. A relationship with the Nobel Prize winner Albert Einstein, who was born in Ulm, could not be established - note Schüürman archive*

272. Rudy Kemp from Anniston/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (announces that his daughter Michelle will bring copies of letters from his sister Erna to Sch.; his sister Erna and her husband regarded the much younger Rudy as their son; warnings that it was time to emigrate; no future for Jews in Germany; invitation to visit him in America) 10.6.1993

273. List H. Sch. from August 2015, 2 p., in which the letters from 1930 to 1964 from Erna Kempenich, which Rudy Kemp left to Herbert Schüürman, are briefly described in terms of content (*list is incorrect and not always chronological - note Schüürman archive*)

274. Rudolf (Rudi) Kempenich to his sister Erna, 4 pp. ca. 1922/23

275. Erna Einstein-Kempenich, from Mannheim to Rudi Kempenich, 2 pp. 3.5.1930

276. Erna Einstein from Mannheim to Rudi Kempenich, 2 p. (are against Rudi going to a small town like Wesel, should work in a larger branch or go abroad, possibly to Grenoble or Madrid) 15.7.1930

277. Erna Einstein from Mannheim to Rudi Kempenich, 2 p. (Erna gives tips on how Rudi can settle in well in his new surroundings) 3.11.1932

278. Erna Einstein from Mannheim to her brother Rudi Kempenich, 2 p. (Rudi starts work at Nathan & Gompertz in Emmerich in the spring) 14.11.1932

279. Erna Einstein from Mannheim to her brother Rudi Kempenich, 2 p. (bad relationship between Fritz Heymann and Julius; choosing a gravestone) 14.2.1933

280. Rudi Kempenich from Emmerich to sister and brother-in-law Einstein, 2 p. (gravestone cannot yet be erected because of frost; Günz does not want to move into the "Buschhaus"/Villa Kempenich because she cannot get a guarantee that Erna and her family might have to move in there; should not worry about the political situation) 24.2.1933

281. Erna and Alfred Einstein to "dear boys", 2 p. (Erna has found a 5-room apartment in Mannheim; plans from Heinz) 15.8.1933

282. Rudi Kempenich from Emmerich to the Einstein family, 2 pages (maintenance costs for the house in Busch; sale of the Hüttenweg property, monthly bus ticket, each journey costs the equivalent of RM 0.07; wants to give children's books to Mr. Lilienfeld for his children's library, business is slowing down because the National Socialists have put up posters in almost all

stores saying that people should not buy from Jews) 3.11.1933

283. Dr. Alfred Einstein to Rudi Kempenich and his fiancée Grete, 2 pp. 1934

284. Dr. Alfred Einstein to his brother-in-law Rudi Kempenich and his wife Grete and a letter from Erna Einstein to the bride and groom, 4 pp. (would have liked to join in the celebration; felt responsible for him like an older brother; still too soft for the hard life; only gradually sensing that the whole world has collapsed; Grete will receive the home in her old place, their life together, where they want to put down roots, begins at a critical moment when everything is pushing towards dissolution, demolition, flight: "You are sticking to the clod, that's good, because there is nothing worse than being driven from place to place, from country to country, always being a stranger, never at home ...") 9.10.1935

285. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudi and Grete Kempenich in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (glad that the family is out of the general combat zone) January 1938

286. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudi and Grete Kempenich in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (writes about experiences of the week, inquires whether Rudi already has a job) January 1938

287. Alfred Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudi and Grete Kempenich in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (reports on business matters) January 1938

288. Erna and Alfred Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudi and Grete Kempenich in Anniston/Alabama, 4 p. (Newspapers have arrived, had a lot of time to read on Shabbat; no news from Erich; worried about news from Romania, where the Jewish population is 1 million out of 18 million and is already completely disenfranchised a few days after the change of government, following the German example: "Which will be the next country to kick out the Jews? Palestine is no longer a ray of hope either, it looks sad there"; son Claude complains about anti-Semitic remarks made by his schoolmates and wanted to transfer to the Jewish school in Paris) 5.2.1938

289. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudi and Grete Kempenich in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p., written on both sides (great depression due to the political situation; "specter of war stood before us"; new wave of immigrants for America; Siggi was visiting and talked about the mentality of the Americans) 3/1938

290. Erna, Alfred and Claude Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudi and Grete Kempenich in Anniston/Alabama, 4 p. (Erna asks about other German emigrants and relationships with Christian families; whether there are recordings of the ship and the Leica has already been sold; Alfred reports that things are even more uncertain in Germany and there is no hope for the Jews: "Everything is drifting towards an end, a solution that cannot be good"; young people are leaving Germany, joy, but also sadness) 3/1938

291. Alfred Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudi and Grete Kempenich in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (should Martel and Richard from Emmerich come to the Kems in America? Richard (Gompertz) has to give up his business: the only option is emigration; Richard is too old for Palestine and does not have enough capital) 8. and 19.4.1938

292. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudi and Grete Kempenich in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (reports on her vacation on the Cote d'Azur; questions about the

Kempenich brothers' Dutch assets; fears that the funds will be confiscated due to the decree on Jewish assets; European situation is somewhat calmer and there is hope for a general pacification) 5.5.1938

293. Alfred Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (Rudi has a new name; financial settlement of the Buschhaus sale difficult; Richard has sold his business; negotiations with the tax office) 9.6.1938

294. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (about Jew-baiting in Germany and Austria) 23.6.1938

295. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p., incomplete (reports on cancelled trip to Erich in Palestine) 18.7.1938

296. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p., with handwritten addition by Alfred Einstein (concern because no letters came for a long time; factory in Buchau sold, price was ridiculous; enquiry from the tax office; savings bank asks for payment of the interest and repayment due for Steinstraße 4. Alfred Einstein adds that Rudy and Grete should contact him urgently) 1.8.1938

297. Erna and Alfred Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 4 p. (Rudy and Grete are expecting children; Heinz and Erich are very happy in Palestine; Gompertz factory was sold for a quarter of the official estimated price; situation in Germany "unspeakably sad, much worse and more hopeless than one can imagine"; new harassment and degradation every day, Alfred has to add "Israel" to his name) 24.8.1938

298. Erna and Alfred Einstein from Strasbourg/France, 4 p. (terrible weeks; ask for advice on what they can do; fascism is on the rise in France and Hitler is swallowing everything; Alfred wants to sell newspaper) 13.10.1938

299. Alfred Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (must give up partnership, receives four times the net profit of the average of the last two years, approx. 250 to 280,000 francs, would correspond to what he had invested; would like to receive documents of the affidavit) 16.11.1938

300. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 pages (synagogue burnt down; Alfred has cancelled the contract, hopes for payment of part of the capital; fears that America will not be spared from the plague of anti-Semitism; son Claude adds a few sentences in French to the letter) 16.11.1938

301. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 pp. (all Jewish businesses are closed, Uncle Walter Steinberg no longer earns anything; savings soon exhausted; Rudy is to write to Steinberg's relative, Mr Rose, in Memphis/Tennessee in English and beg him for an affidavit and help; horrific mistreatment in concentration camps; many shootings; suicides of entire families, so great is the despair) 19.11.1938

302. Alfred Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 pages, written on both sides (considering emigration to Palestine) 4.1.1939

303. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (wishes they had already left Strasbourg; Alfred has a tourist visa for Palestine; misery is increasing daily; Claude is apparently learning English and adds: "Many greets and kisses your Claude") 4.1.1939

304. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (everything is estranged, feels like a visit; Papa Felix (= Rudy Kemp's father-in-law) wants to help Richard (= Gompertz) with his shop; Gompertz could perhaps move into the flat behind the shop; reassurance for Erna because they would be close to Rudy and Grete) 2.2.1939

305. Erna and Alfred Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (happy about telegram that child has been born; hopes to finally get away, but Palestine would not be a place of rest in case of war; Alfred is proud that the new citizen of the world bears his name and that he is in a free country; wishes him that he never has to experience the insults and humiliations that he did and that he should never forget why he had to leave his homeland) 11.2.1939

306. Erna and Alfred Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 4 p. (thanks for the pictures of Fred-Max; should not spoil him; mother, Martel and Hete left Le Havre at half past midnight on the 23rd or 24th (March?); mother was magnificently brave and was an example to everyone; no longer wants to stay in Europe: "We are literally sitting on a powder keg." Waiting eagerly for an answer from Palestine, but have also registered for America, want to "have two irons in the fire"; heard that if you have 500 dollars per person, only a kind of character certificate or guarantee is required; Alfred has made a lot by selling Palestine land; earnings were very decent; Rudy and Grete have not experienced the hardships of emigration; Erna and Alfred have seen in Paris "these wandering Jews who no longer have a home anywhere and see no prospect of rebuilding"; Alfred hopes to come to Palestine soon because "the ground is burning"; few prospects for him to come to America unless he could prove the need to found a good English-Jewish newspaper) 27. 3.1939

307. Erna Einstein from Strasbourg/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 4 p. (Buchauer and Gompertz in America; Erna also writes in English) 19.4.1939

308. Dr Alfred Einstein, 2 p. (comments on Rudy's professional development; emigration to Palestine or America?) *undated*

309. Erna and Alfred Einstein to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (political tension is unbearable; Hitler's speech brought no relief; Jews are leaving in droves; motto is wait and don't lose your nerve) 2.5.1939

310. Erna Einstein to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (Buchauer are in Cleveland, all men have work, all are learning English; Erna wants to take a course in sewing or tailoring "to be better equipped for the great migration") 16.5.1939

311. Erna Einstein to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (Alfred has embarked in Marseille and has travelled to Tel Aviv; a provisional decision has been made regarding Alfred's severance pay from the company, he will receive the sum of 137. 000 francs and is allowed to work as a journalist again; already has many ideas, e.g. to have a children's book distributed free of charge via registry offices, which parents of newborns receive; subsidies may also be possible, as France is currently doing a lot of propaganda to increase the birth rate

in order to prevent depopulation) 28.6.1939

312. Alfred Einstein and Erna Einstein from Gérardmer/France to Mother Einstein, 2 p. (they are in a delightful Vosges village about 140 km from the border; should war break out, Alfred wants to report for duty; Erna wants to do her duty: "It is important to put an end to the spook") 29.8.1939

313. Erna Einstein to Rudy and Grete Kemp, completed by Alfred Einstein, 2 pp. (away from Strasbourg for four and a half weeks and now in Gérardmer in the Vosges with the most necessary things; flat found; war has broken out; Alfred has volunteered and is waiting to be called up; Alfred was able to go to Strasbourg again with a special permit and brought valuable and important things with him, including the pictures and the small antique chest of drawers; Erna hopes "that the democracies will win and that the Hitler regime will finally stop bringing horror, misery and sorrow to mankind") *undated*

314. Erna Einstein from Gérardmer/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama with handwritten addition by Alfred Einstein, 2 pp. (To Erna's astonishment, Rudy is only now beginning to read English-language books; the two should get to know the language and business customs before setting up their own business; Else is impressed by the development of the business of Felix Nathan, Rudy's father-in-law; Alfred writes that Rudy will probably soon receive the two shares, which he will then also invest for his sister (Erna); believes he will soon be able to start military service; has so far noticed almost nothing of the war) 30.11.1939

315. Alfred Einstein and Erna Einstein from Gérardmer/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/ Alabama, 4 p. (The die is cast: Alfred is travelling to Lyon to a foreign legion collection depot in North Africa; only opportunity to fight against Hitler and his regime - in full agreement with his inner convictions, so takes his part to avenge everyone; hopes to be French on his return; Erna has not yet heard from Alfred; decision was necessary because Alfred could no longer stand idly by and watch everyone else fight, "for a cause that is also ours"; mail has just arrived from Alfred from the collection camp in Lyon with about 50 legionnaires; sleeping in a barn; Alfred is glad to have a sleeping bag made of down; Erna asks Rudy whether it makes sense to export, there are wonderful trousseau items in her linen weaving centre, really tasteful things; if she is interested, she would like to enquire about the export conditions) 28. 12.1939 u. 1.1.1940

316. Alfred Einstein from the collection depot (in Lyon?) to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 pp. (Sciatic pain has increased; is being treated for 10 to 12 days; doctors are excellent; does not yet know whether he will still be fit for service afterwards, unfortunately there are no auxiliary services such as nurses or office in the Legion; should send the letter on to his mother in Cleveland because he does not know whether his letter has arrived there; Alfred's business affairs have not progressed, his ex-compagnon is sitting on the Riviera eating up the money he owes Alfred; everyone is in good spirits, confidence in victory has not diminished; Freddy should have another brother or sister) 13.1.1940

317. Erna Einstein from Gérardmer/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (heavy snow, temperature -22 to -27 degrees; evening toilet no longer consists of undressing but dressing; increasing loneliness; Erna also wants to move her domicile, but does not yet know where; mother-in-law in Cleveland is a wonderful woman; wants to have the Einsteins around: "I wonder if I'll live to see it again?" People often think she is Claude's older sister, but she already has a lot of grey hair and wants to have it treated with henna: "It



gives a warm, chestnut-red glow like I used to have"; asks whether Rudy and Grete are well looked after in the house: "Do you still have a black one?") 22.1.1940

318. Alfred Einstein, legionnaire, to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 4 pp. (gives the letter to an acquaintance who is travelling by ship to South America and hopes that it will arrive; does not know what information has arrived since the outbreak of war and gives a brief outline of life as a refugee; travelled to Gérardmer in the Vosges in good time with only a few things; collected more things on two trips to Strasbourg, which had been completely evacuated; reported to the Legion on the very first day of mobilisation; was accepted, which was lucky because he avoided the internment camp to which around 99% of all Germans and Austrians living in France were sent; another attack of sciatica; three weeks in hospital near Lyon; after a one-day stay in Marseille, trip to Algeria on an excellent steamer; training as a legionnaire takes around four months; no deployment in Europe; reassuring for the families; a holiday is planned after six months: "We are counting the days until that first reunion"; glad to be able to play his modest part in Hitler's downfall; knows everyone is worried about Erna and the boy if anything should happen; difficult time for Erna just now, when education is becoming particularly difficult - Claude is turning 13; acquaintances from Gérardmer have moved on because there is no support there; has advised Erna to move further inland to get stimulation and possibly to find work; only received part of the money that he was entitled to from his partner; difficult to put on a military uniform at the age of 37) 20.2.1940

319. Erna Einstein from Gérardmer/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (Alfred away since 26 December 1939, no reunion before the end of June; simple soldier cannot support a family; application for rent support made; worries about mother-in-law's health) 11.3.1940

320. Alfred Einstein from Algeria to his mother and his loved ones, 2 p. (good health; sciatica healed in dry heat; is assigned to the intelligence section; housing, hygienic conditions, food, etc. are excellent; If things remain quiet at the front, Erna and Claude are to stay in Gérardmer; cannot take part in Claude's bar mitzvah; will be on leave in June at the earliest; wants to contribute to "eliminating a system that has brought us all so many worries, deprivations, shame and ridicule") 17.3.1940

321. Alfred Einstein from Algeria to his mother, 2 p. (worries about his mother's health; mood in the camp is good and confident; follows the changes in world history with interest; was in the synagogue, was a necessity after long months) 24.3.1940

322. Alfred Einstein from Algeria to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 1 p. (sends photo of himself that was taken for Claude's Bar Mitzvah; separated from the family for almost four months, everyone is happy to accept it if "we can contribute to the destruction of this Hitler system and avoid further senseless wars") 14.4.1940

323. Erna Einstein from Gérardmer/France to her mother-in-law in Cleveland, 2 pp. (after four weeks without news after receiving the letter, cried with happiness; sent telegram to Alfred and wrote him a confusing letter; daily correspondence with Alfred; Alfred was selected with six others from the group of 40 people for a new special course, they are being trained as observers; must now learn map reading and land surveying; much cleaning and work done for the Bar Mitzvah, which will take place in a few days; misses Alfred and the relatives more than usual; Claude was given new clothes and shoes as a gift from a family who had a shoe shop and were able to save the camp; wine, liqueur and cake still have to be ordered; she wants to buy

vegetables and salad at the market; the owner of a Jewish restaurant helps her with the cooking; everything is pointless without Alfred, but Erna wants to make the day festive for Claude) 14. 4.1940

324. Erna Einstein from Gérardmer/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 pp. (the big day is over; much to do before the celebration; preparation, cleaning, curtains washed; had a woman for the floors and stairs for one day; Alfred has a new job with the Legion; would love to start the construction with Rudy and Grete, but this must be dispensed with for the time being; addition, dictated by Claude: thanks for the gift of money, wants to send a photo; has received books, silver cigarette case, lighter and pen holder, among other things) 25.4.1940

325. Erna Einstein from Gérardmer/France to her mother-in-law in Cleveland, 2 p. (thanks for telegram about the Bar Mitzvah; reports on the preparations and the course of the day; synagogue was crowded as on high holidays; food included fish, bouillon, roast veal, tongue, roast beef, various salads and pineapple; this letter will be sent again by airmail, but the next ones will not, so it will take longer for the letters to arrive) 26.4.1940

326. Erna Einstein from St. Ambroix/France to her mother-in-law in Cleveland, 1 p. (informs her in English that she has received a telegram and letter from Alfred, who is still in the same place; no demobilisation; Alfred has not received any more news from the family for several weeks; thinks Erna is still living in Gérardmer; hopes that the family will soon be reunited in America) 15.7.1940

*This letter was forwarded to Rudy Kemp. The signature is not legible - note Schüürman archive*

327. Alfred Einstein from Algeria to his mother, 2 p. (no news of Erna and Claude for three weeks; had to assume that they had fallen into the hands of the Germans; now he has received twelve letters and a telegram - sent as a letter - and has learnt that Erna and Claude are travelling in five days by bike, on foot and by car to the south of France, St. Ambroix, near Avignon; does not know what will happen to him in Algeria; is thinking of going to America; even before the outbreak of the war, he was told by the responsible consulate that he could expect to emigrate in autumn 1940; the consulate was then moved to Bordeaux; he is unable to contact it; asks for help; should contact Rudy, who can certainly provide a substantial part of the guarantees and is well informed about the Einsteins' financial situation) 15. 7.1940

328. Erna and Alfred Einstein to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 pp. (Erna: have not made much progress; disappointment that papers have not yet been found; "trying not to lose our mental balance"; Claude goes to the cinema alone, smokes and tells dirty little jokes; Alfred: Consulate would perhaps do research if it had instructions, only Washington could help by granting a special or dangerous visa; conditions for leaving the country are constantly changing; there are fewer difficulties for Erna and Claude than for Alfred when it comes to leaving the country, but we only want to separate if it is absolutely necessary; Heinz (Kempenich) has written a detailed letter; there is no possibility of leaving for Brazil; Rudy should enquire, purely as a precaution, how the question of the ship's deposit can be resolved) 1940

329. Rudolf Kempenich from Anniston/Alabama to the head of the visa department in Washington D.C., 1 p. (encloses his letter to the American consulate in Marseille as well as his proof of income; would like to know under what circumstances his sister Erna and her family can obtain a visitor's visa) 17.9.1940

330. Rudolf Kempenich from Anniston/Alabama to the American Consulate General in Marseille, 1 p. (informs about the current situation of Alfred, Erna and Claude Einstein, wants to vouch for them, has paid in 4000 dollars so far, is prepared to pay more, if a permanent visa is not possible, he asks for a visitor's visa to be issued) 17.9.1940

331. Erna Einstein from St. Ambroix/France to mother-in-law in Cleveland, 2 p. (they have had a tiny flat for 14 days; Alfred cannot come yet; have all the important food ration cards, coffee, soap and oil are missing most, clothes are missing, savings are getting smaller every day, no reply from the consulate yet; must celebrate the High Holidays alone in a few weeks) 28.9.1940

332. Alfred and Erna Einstein from St. Ambroix/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 pp. (Alfred: happily returned home almost five weeks ago, is now looking for work, which is very difficult, labour market situation worsening due to forced farming, fact that he has done nine months military service will be favourable to emigration; was in Marseille to sound out the situation, problem finding the dossier he submitted at the end of 1939; suspects that his family could be "on" in November next year, as applicants for October, November 1938 are currently being processed; possible departure via Brazil; immediate visa via Washington is possible if you are in danger; Erna: Waiting time begins, Alfred is impatient; sad news from Buchau, all relatives had to leave the country) 11. 11.1940

333. Alfred and Erna Einstein from St. Ambroix/France to their mother and mother-in-law respectively, 2 pp. (Alfred: have received Rudy's affidavit several months late; Rudy has written about the favourable development in Anniston; Alfred regrets not being able to benefit from it; Martel and Richard could try their luck there because there are good job opportunities; Alfred has not yet found work, the family receives a small allowance as refugees; want to rent a piece of land and grow cabbage, "that gives us all a feeling of being down-to-earth"; no reply from the consulate, large package from Gérardmer with many things from the past, Erna: Claude thinks about which woman he can marry in America, a German is out of the question, an American woman is difficult because of the language, so the only option is a French woman: "And by the time we get here there will be a number of them"; lots of time for food supplies, but Erna still finds what she needs) 12.12.1940

334. Alfred and Erna Einstein to the mother and mother-in-law from St. Ambroix/France, 2 p. (Alfred was at the consulate in Marseille because his dossier was allegedly found and his departure will soon begin; visas were issued for those who registered at the end of 1938, Alfred had applied for departure at the beginning of 1939; at the consulate there was only a folder with Rudy's affidavit, a declaration from the tax authorities regarding Rudy's salary is still missing, also a declaration or guarantee regarding his moral and political qualities. Alfred translated the text from the consulate: "Moral and political guarantees can be given in the form of an affidavit (a declaration that must be made before a notary) and must come from an American citizen living in the USA; this citizen must guarantee the good moral character of the immigrant and prove that the latter is not an agent of any foreign government and will not engage in any activity that could harm the interests of the USA"; Alfred hoped that someone with these qualities could be found among his other relatives. After his return from North Africa, Alfred contacted a committee that was primarily concerned with intellectuals; he presented his situation there and was asked to name relatives in America, including Albert E. Einstein) 21.12.1940

335. Alfred Einstein from St. Ambroix/France, 2 p. (because the letters have probably not all arrived, he again describes the problems surrounding the emigration and the lost dossier) 9.1.1941

336. Alfred and Erna Einstein from St. Ambroix/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (Erna has an infection caused by coli bacteria, which now includes jaundice; Alfred has to run the household alone; not much has changed: "We live from the past and hope for the future"; the overall situation in Europe is bleak, the foundations of the economy and the moral order have been completely destroyed) 3.2.1941

337. Siegfried Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to Dr Max Gruenewald in New York, 1 p. (thanks for support in the immigration case of his brother Alfred and his family; State Department in Washington sends another affidavit to the consulate in Marseille; informs that Rudy Kempenich has already deposited 4000 dollars in an Anniston bank for the Einstein family) 4.2.1941

338. Rudy Kempenich from Anniston/Alabama to the American consul in Marseille, 1 p. (provides necessary explanations for his brother-in-law Alfred Einstein) 12.2.1941

339. Alfred and Erna Einstein from St. Ambroix/France to mother and mother-in-law in Cleveland, 2 p. (emigration is associated with many difficulties, which have increased; remote location of St. Ambroix does not make this any easier; when all documents are available, the fight for the ship begins, cannot take much with them and want to sell things) 1941

340. Alfred and Erna Einstein from St. Ambroix/France to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (still no news from the consulate, application has probably still not been found; asks Rudy whether he has obtained the morality affidavit, if necessary he wants to get a Danger visa; Grete is preparing for a future that is full of new and unknown things) 16.2.1941

341. Erna Einstein, no salutation, 2 p. (has a lot of work in the household with darning and mending, does not know whether she will still get her things from the old flat such as trousseau, pictures and the beautiful old chest of drawers) *undated*

342. Telegram from Rudy Kemp ordering the Einstein family's passes for a ship from Lisbon to New York and confirmation from the shipping company 6.3.1941

343. Alfred and Erna Einstein from Marseille/France to their mother, the Clevelanders, the Annistoners and the New Yorkers, 2 pp. (have probably already learnt by cable that they have succeeded in overcoming the difficulties and have got a steam boat sailing to Martinique; happy to see each other soon and to start a new life; journey to Martinique alone will take almost four weeks and will not be pleasant; Claude and Alfred in the dormitory; Erna has a cabin; in Martinique at the end of May; don't yet know how they will get on; perhaps the ship will also sail to New York; otherwise there are other ship connections or the aeroplane; in New York by mid-June, stay there for a few days and continue to Cleveland; Claude has received his first suit with long trousers) 1. 5.1941

344. Alfred and Erna Einstein from Casablanca/Morocco, 2 pp. (en route to New York via Casablanca; journey via Lisbon would not have been possible until January 1942; did not want to wait so long; the ship is a large cargo steamer with beautiful first-class accommodation; the rest are accommodated in temporary cabins; Erna sleeps with seven other women in an

outside cabin; Men are in the ship's hold with hundreds of cots and lie on straw sacks without linen; everything is very primitive, but one gets used to it; Erna seasick; met many men from Mannheim who had been in camps for months; lucky that they were spared this; eight days before departure from St. Ambroix, all things from Gérard were taken off the ship. Ambroix; received all their things from Gérardmer; sold some, brought the rest with them, including an old chest of drawers) 5/1941

345. Alfred and Erna Einstein, 2 p. (have sent telegram to Cleveland that they will arrive on 13 June 1941; are curious to see who will pick them up; wonderful trip on the "Evangeline"; royally fed and well accommodated; Erna cannot enjoy the last days of the journey before "our uncertain future" as she is seasick; the unpleasant days on the "Winnipeg" are quickly forgotten, two suitcases are missing) 8.6.1941

346. Alfred and Erna Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (thanks for the report from their holiday; they should contact them when they are back in Anniston; the Einsteins then want to go to them to consider what to do; Alfred has kept his decision to accept an offer from American Lloyd open until 15 July and wants to see what happens first. July and wants to see what he can do in Anniston first; many people have learnt of their arrival in Cleveland from a short note in the newspaper "Der Aufbau"; many greetings, they will not be greeted by the rest of the family; the Einsteins want to go to Anniston. too much of a nuisance; she keeps a low profile - "so do we"; journey from Cleveland to Anniston takes 22 hours) 2.7.1941

347. Alfred Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (attended a successful ball; developments in Germany cause concern; Kempenich children have a duty to do something for the Steinbergs; Alfred does not earn badly on paper, but time passes before he is paid; looks around for another job as a precaution; Rudy should transfer Alfred's money to Alfred's brother Siggis account) 16.11.1941

348. Erna, Alfred and Claude Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/ Alabama, 2 p. (Claude has a job and earns a few dollars; language progress with Claude; houses decorated and illuminated for Christmas - xmas; if Rudy is interested in life insurance, Alfred wants to advise him) *undated*

349. Erna Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 4 p. (have moved and are finally living in their own house again; due to the political situation, American Lloyd has hardly any work left and has cancelled all agents' contracts as of 15 January 1942). Alfred wants to obtain a licence for a life insurance agency; Erna wants to know whether the Kemps have heard any news from Emmerich, the Buchau Jews had to move into a few houses together; Alfred earned over 500 dollars in November and will earn a maximum of 140 dollars in December) 25.12.1941

350. Erna, Alfred and Claude Einstein to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 6 p. (Alfred has passed the exam, but success is still to come; Erna has become 'first vice-president of the sisterhood'; first lecture was a great success) 17.2.1942

351. Erna Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to Rudy ("Rudiken") and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (congratulates Rudy on his birthday; greetings also from Alfred ("Fredl") and Claude) 2.5.1942

352. Erna Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 4 p. (congratulates on their wedding anniversary; has given a lecture to the women's club "Die Menschen sind gut - Kriegserlebnisse aus Frankreich"; about Jewish community life; sings in the choir; addition from Alfred, who writes about his business and that he was also able to win customers from refugee circles, he would prefer American ones) 1.6.1942

353. Claude Einstein and Erna Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (Erna reports, among other things, on problems with the landlord because of alleged dog noise; "if he had known we were German, he would not have rented us his flat") 6.9.1942

354. Alfred ("Fredl") Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to "Meine Lieben", 2 p. (writes in detail about his "job problem" at an insurance company, but is in good spirits, even if he fears a "long war") 23.12.1942

355. Erna Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to "Meine Lieben", 4 p. (in the letter, excerpts from a letter from a Hugo (?) about illness from an Erich: handwritten addition from Alfred Einstein) 4.7.1944

356. Alfred Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to Rudy and Grete Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (about financial disputes; would like to hear opinions on the letter from "Julius"; handwritten addition from Erna Einstein, looking for a flat or small house "in a decent location") 16.10.1944

357. Alfred Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to "Meine Lieben", 2 p. (reports on a traffic accident caused by his son Claude in Lexington while looking for a hotel because he had overlooked a barely visible stop sign and an old car with "two young, somewhat drunken lads" rushed towards him, which was overturned and threatened to burst into flames; one of the two occupants was slightly injured on the finger; Claude arrested and released on bail) 17.6.1947

358. Erna Einstein from Cleveland/Ohio to Felix Nathan in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (thanks for report and films of F.N.'s Emmerich trip; has read the newspaper cuttings from Emmerich with interest: "You really enjoyed many honours. I think you came home at just the right time" - because of the Korean War? Reports on her tour of America and Canada; you "really can't imagine what such a ruined city looks like; personally, I don't care at all whether it's rebuilt in 50 years or 100. I've been away from Emmerich for 25 years and since there are no more Jews there, I have no relationship with anyone") 18.7.1950

359. Gil (?) to "Grandpa", "Grandma" and an "Aunt Meta" (copied letter on reverse from Erna Einstein to "My loved ones"; greeting from Alfred Einstein) 12.9.1960

360. Erna Einstein-Kempenich from Cleveland/Ohio, to her brother Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (inheritance dispute over "Buschhaus" in Borghees etc.) 1964  
*In the family, Villa Kempenich was occasionally also called "Buschhaus" - note Schüürman archive*

361. Erna Einstein-Kempenich to the city of Emmerich, 1 p. (cancels invitation to Emmerich due to her state of health and age) 22.3.1989

362. H. Sch. on documents in the city archives relating to old foundations, including the Margarethen Foundation 1917/1918 in Box 1170; contains minutes (copy) of the first board

meeting of the Margarethen Foundation founded by Max Kempenich on 17 November 1917; also the communication from Mayor Dr Langen dated 2 January 1918 to Max Kempenich. 1918 to Max Kempenich that the municipal council had accepted the increase in the foundation's capital by a further 5000 M "with heartfelt thanks"; also a copy of the acceptance of the Margarethen Foundation by the municipal council on 8 January 1918 for the attention of the District President of Düsseldorf and District Administrator Wesel; Hand. Notes (copy on the increase and approval of the foundation)

363. Seven handwritten lectures (copies, no. A-G) by Erna Einstein-Kempenich from 1972 to the 1980s in libraries, synagogues, on the 70th birthday of her brother Rudy, etc. with descriptions of her childhood, etc. In lecture C, p. V, she talks about a trip to Europe that took her to London, Rome, Athens, Düsseldorf, Munich, Vienna, Buchau, the birthplace of her husband Alfred Einstein and to Emmerich, "my birthplace, I can't say hometown, I was a stranger in a strange city")

### **Kurt Leyser collection**

364. Walter Neuss from Düsseldorf to the Restitution Office of the City of Emmerich, 1 p. (the nephew would like to know whether the Brink 5 property of his deceased uncle David Leyser is registered as subject to restitution) 4.8.1950

*David Leyser, born on 18 July 1911 in Emmerich/Rhine, was the son of Conrad Leyser, merchant and timber wholesaler from Emmerich, and Else Meyer - note Schüürman archive*

365. Kurt Leyser from Cape Town/South Africa to the Mayor of the City of Emmerich, 1 p. (would like to visit the birthplace of his deceased father and has questions about the gravesites) 15.2.1986

366. H. Sch. to Kurt Leyser in Cape Town/South Africa, 2 p. (informs him about the fate of other family members) 25.3.1986

367. Kurt Leyser from Cape Town/South Africa to H. Sch., 2 pages (informs him of the duration of his stay, comes with his daughters, will visit graves and Mayor Franz Wolters) 8.4.1986

368. Same as no. 367, only with handwritten addition 8.4.1986

369. H. Sch. to Kurt Leyser in Cape Town/South Africa, 1 p. (informs him that Mr Carl Hans von Gimborn's driver will pick up the family in Essen and invites him and his daughters to his home) 10.5.1986

370. Kurt Leyser from Cape Town/South Africa to H. Sch., 1 p. (accepts invitation and informs him of the name of the hotel in Essen) 15.5.1986

371. Same as no. 370 with handwritten addition (copy) 15.5.1986

372. Kurt Leyser from Cape Town/South Africa to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks him for the efforts made during his visit and for the family tree) 11.7.1986

373. Hanns Leyser from Berlin to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for family tree and photo of grandparents, is travelling to Toronto for three months and will provide further family details from there, has lived in Uruguay for a long time) 13.8.1986

374. H. Sch. to Kurt Leyser in Cape Town/South Africa, 1 p. (informs him that he is in contact with his cousin Hanns Leyser in Berlin; in a treatise on the Emmerich memorandum book he was able to establish that the Leyser family lived in Emmerich for the longest uninterrupted period) 30.8.1986

375. Kurt Leyser from Cape Town/South Africa to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks him for the new family tree and the memorandum book, corrects some details) 28.1.1987

376. Marianne Leyser from Berlin to H. Sch., 1 p. (informs him of the death of her husband Hanns on 9 July 1987) 24.9.1988

377. H. Sch. to the Leyser family in Cape Town/South Africa, 1 p. (informs that a Henriette Leubsdorf was married to Joseph Leyser from Emmerich) 17.12.1990

378. H. Sch. to the Leyser family in Cape Town/South Africa, 1 p. (informs them that the book "Jews in Emmerich" will be published in the middle of the year) 2.1.1993

379. Kurt Leyser from Cape Town/South Africa to H. Sch., 1 p. (is enthusiastic about the book, wants to have part concerning his family translated into English) 13.4.1994

380. H. Sch. to Kurt Leyser in Cape Town/South Africa, 1 p. (reports on his visit to Jews in America) 5.1.1996

381. Copy of the family tree of the Leyser family *undated*

382. List of ancestors of the Leyser family *undated*



#### **IV. Letters by Jews from Emmerich, folder Nathan family, Sign. Ja172**

##### **Felix Nathan collection**

383. Marriage certificate (copy) of Felix and Regina Nathan, 1 p. 12.9.1911
384. Copy of the previously listed marriage certificate
385. Certificate of honour of the Fire Brigade Association of the Rhine Province for Felix Nathan 3.7.1933
386. 25-year membership of the Emmerich Citizens' Rifle Association 1.8.1933
387. Speech by Richard Gompertz (copy) at a special meeting of the board and the representatives of the Israel. Community of Emmerich in the community centre, 2 p. 4.4.1937
388. Article from the NRZ about Felix Nathan, who came to Elten for the shooting festival 10.8.1954
389. Memories about the fire brigade comrade Felix Nathan, 2 p. *undated*
390. Felix Nathan and his wife to the Emmerich town council, for the attention of Mayor Pieper and Town Clerk Dr Weyer, 2 pages (thanks for a letter of congratulations on their golden wedding anniversary; even after almost 25 years away from home and having held American citizenship for 17 years, they are still "more than 100% connected to our dear Emmerich" in terms of their love of their homeland and local patriotism) 28.9.1961
391. Newspaper article from the RP Emmerich (orig.) with a report on the history of the Schützenbruderschaften in the border town, including a photo with Felix Nathan 8.8.1986
392. Speech by Mayor Norbert Giltjes on the occasion of the opening of the exhibition "Jewish families in Emmerich", 3 p. 11.9.1988
393. Photos and small newspaper note on the exhibition, 2 pp.
394. Family tree of the Nathan family *undated*
395. Alice Burkett, granddaughter of Felix Nathan and daughter of Hertha Nathan, from Atlanta/Georgia and Danny Willingham from Kennesaw/Georgia, to Mr and Mrs Schüürman (thanks them for the wonderful day in Emmerich; has learnt a great deal about her mother's birthplace; loves Emmerich and the modern Catholic Church; thanks them for not forgetting the Jews in Emmerich) 17.1.2000
396. Alice Burkett from Atlanta/Georgia to Mr and Mrs Schüürman, together with two business cards and proof of the deposit of a cheque for 100 US dollars, 2 pp. (sends cheque for 100 dollars for the care of the cemetery; had forgotten to thank her on the card for the book about the Emmerich Jews; Aunt Sophie was happy when she told her about the visit to Emmerich, she had told Aunt Sophie and Aunt Greta about the Rhine, the Buschhaus and the cemetery; told father about the Red Cross book, who accepted that his family had died in Auschwitz, had heard years ago that transports had taken place, but had never seen it

documented) 17.1.2000

397. Newspaper article from NRZ Emmerich about the history of the fire brigade 14.8.2008

## **Thekla (in America: Thea) Nathan collection**

397a. Thea Nathan from Elmhurst/Long Island, New York, to "Herr Fink, Bürgermeister der Stadt Emmerich am Rhein", see note below, 1 p. (informs that her two daughters and she were rescued from the Kiel-Hasse labour education camp to Sweden and have since arrived in the USA; asks that the address be passed on if family members should contact her; she would appreciate it if the city would occasionally inform her about the conditions in Emmerich and the condition of her former property at Fischerort 21) 7.9.1946

*Copy by George Nathan from Atlanta/Georgia, subsequently added to the Schüürman archive.*

*Thekla Nathan, née Bendix, was born on 28 July 1892 in Burgsteinfurt, Westphalia and was married to the cattle dealer Georg (Schorsch) Nathan from Emmerich. Hubert Fink was appointed mayor by the British occupying forces in April 1945 and held office until 28 January 1946; on this day the British appointed him city manager; he held office until 29 May 1953, when he died in a traffic accident. Mayor from 28 January 1946 to 20 October 1948 and from 5 December 1952 to 28 March 1961 was Paul Maria van Aaken - note Schüürman archive*

397b. Emmerich city administration to Louis Nathan in Hamburg-Bahrenfeld, 1 p. (informs on request that the home of relative Thea Nathan at Fischerort 21 was destroyed in the bombing raid on Emmerich; informs of Thea Nathan's new address in the USA) 30.10.1946

*Copy of George Nathan from Atlanta/Georgia, subsequently added to the Schüürman archive*

397c. Emmerich city administration, presumably from Hubert Fink, to Thea Nathan ("Mrs Georg Nathan") in Elmhurst/Illinois, 1p. (confirms receipt of letter dated 7 Sept. 1946; unfortunately has to state that the house at Fischerort 21 was destroyed on 7 Oct. 1944: "Only a new building from the ground up would be an option"; "our once so flourishing and beautiful home town" was 97% destroyed in the war. Apart from a few houses in the former street block Rheinufer/Steinstrasse/Königstrasse, only the outskirts of Speelberg remained partially intact: "Here too, all the houses show more or less extensive damage"; after the end of the war, Emmerich, including Klein-Netterden, had only around 500 inhabitants; of the approx. 7500 Emmerich residents now living again, only 1300 lived in decent housing, while all the others had to seek shelter in cellar flats, stables and other emergency housing; there were therefore an average of 6 - 8 people per room; since September 1945, the town of Emmerich has been cleared of rubble, i.e. The rubble was taken to the Pastorshafen and the usable material was sorted out for reuse; since the entire industry and economy had been destroyed as a result of the total destruction of all factories, the most difficult problem for the city administration was the reconstruction of the city and the revival of a reasonably satisfactory economy, especially since permanent unemployment made this catastrophic emergency situation much worse)

31.10.1946

*Subsequently added to the Schüürman archive*

398. Thea Nathan from Elmhurst/Long Island, New York, to Richard and Johanna Meenen in Emmerich, 4 pp. (was very pleased to receive the kind lines; can see from them that people took an interest in her fate; Georg did not live to see the turn for the better; in the ghetto in Riga a toenail was removed from his big toe, blood poisoning, and his heart no longer wanted to work; exactly 5 months away from home; often thanked God for this, because it spared him a lot of hardship; great miracle of God that they survived the terrible time; if she wanted to tell about it, it would make a thick book; better not to think about it so much; Louis Gans and Mrs and Mrs Isaak Nathan were sent to their deaths; They did not know at the time what lay ahead for the poor people; they were cut off from the world; correspondence was punishable by

death, every minor offence was punished by hanging and shooting; always with one foot in the grave, the two girls worked in the peat, came back in the autumn and were able to work with Thea Nathan in the Wehrmacht; Riga ghetto was dissolved in autumn 43; thousands of people were sent to Auschwitz to the gas chambers; no child under the age of ten remained alive; remained near Riga, initially 1400 people, then fewer and fewer, as most were sent to the concentration camp; six weeks in prison in Hamburg, then 98 km on foot to Kiel, 1st May 1945, rescue by Swedish police. Rescued by the Swedish Red Cross on 1 May 1945; they had been bought out with a lot of money, wearing convict clothes and shaved heads; the Swedes were fantastic and nursed them back to health; met their sister and brother-in-law again in Sweden, who had actually wanted to go to Palestine in 1942 but were unable to leave; landed in America on 8 April 1946. Sophie has been married to Felix Nathan's son since November and lives in Anniston/Alabama; 20 hours away by train; Emmi is also married and lives nearby in Philadelphia; no longing for Emmerich, there are too many sad memories attached to it) 22.3.1947

*On the "White Buses" see, among others: Sune Persson: Rescue at the last moment. Folke Bernadotte and the liberation of thousands of concentration camp prisoners through the "White Buses" operation / Ake Svenson: The White Buses. An Eyewitness Report (1945), Berlin 2011 - note Schüürman archive*

399. Thea Nathan, currently Anniston/Alabama, to the Meenen family in Emmerich, 4 pp. (thanks for the detailed letter; was a great pleasure, because one is still interested in all the old acquaintances; Felix Nathan is always very busy; has built up a very small Emmerich in Anniston; he owns a large piece of land with a shop and a house on it; he has also built three semi-detached houses and two detached houses; is still working in the business, although he has transferred it to his son; has written to the Land Registry about the house and pasture, because she needs the latest extracts; asks Johanna Meenen to pay the costs if any arise, because she does not know whether money can be sent over there, wants to reimburse the costs in the form of a parcel) 18. 1.1948

400. Thea Nathan, currently Anniston/Alabama, to a Miss Möllmann, 5 pp. (thanks for letter, "a sign that the people of Emmerich have not quite forgotten us after all"; a farmer's son is said to have seen her in the ghetto in Riga; Thea would be very interested in the name of this soldier; reports on time in the camp; then travelled to Hamburg in the camp of a coal ship; then to prison; Prayer books torn in front of their eyes; march to Kiel, 98 km in four days, labour education camp was hell, rescue by the Swedish Red Cross was high time, "otherwise I would not have lived to see freedom"; negotiations with Himmler, then they were ransomed; time in Sweden was good; immediately on the first passenger steamer on 26th March 1946 to America, "happily ever after". March 1946 to America, "happy to leave Europe behind us", one can breathe freely, is human and is respected as a human being) 9.3.1948

401. Thea Nathan, currently Anniston/Alabama, to the Meenen family in Emmerich, 4 p. (asks whether her last letter has not arrived; has also not yet received any news from the land registry office; Sophie's years in the concentration camp have made themselves felt physically, "the years have not got stuck in anyone's clothes"; now she is feeling better again; Thea wants to go back to New York at the end of April) 25.3.1948

402. Thea Nathan from Elmhurst/Long Island, New York, to the Meenen family in Emmerich, 4 p. (pleased that the Meenens' son has returned from captivity; letter read with interest, could thus get a small picture of life in Emmerich; thanks for letter from Dr Welter, who had informed her that the town had taken over the house, but that the German Reich was the owner in the land register, everything else had been deleted; wrote to Bad Nenndorf about

compensation (the British military administration issued a disposition order on 17. 7.1947 the British Military Administration set up the Disposal Board as a restitution authority, which was renamed on 8.10.1947 as the "Central Office for Property Management" for Jewish and other forcibly dispossessed real estate assets for securing in restitution proceedings - note Schüürman archive); but it will be a long time before they hear anything about it: "Everything was stolen from us very quickly, but they are in no hurry to give it back. We have also registered our dignity, because we had to hand it over under duress"; they are trying to get their rights back, "they gave us everything and we only saved our bare lives") 28.6.1948

403. Thea Nathan from Elmhurst/Long Island, New York, to the "dear Köster family", 6 pp. (apologises for not replying to the family's letter more quickly; had been with her daughter in the south for almost a year; was pleased to receive lines "because it shows that we are not yet completely forgotten in Emmerich": "Unfortunately, there were only a few people in the years 38 - 41 who had the courage to not yet completely despise the Jews, and I like to think back to these people, including you"; in America, everyone is equally respected, "and that is something wonderful for us after all the years of disregard") 4. 7.1948

404. Thea Nathan from Anniston/Alabama to the lawyer and notary Dr Welter in Emmerich, 2 p. (confirms receipt of the letter of 18.2.49; it will still take some time before she has the desired documents together and can send them to W.; reports on the transport to Riga on 10. 12.1941 and the death of her husband in the ghetto hospital from blood poisoning and starvation on 10.5.1942; also reports on the so-called "death march" from Hamburg to Kiel and the liberation by the Swedish Red Cross etc.; cannot name any further witnesses) 11.3.1949

*The letter is reprinted in Leo Gies: Zur Geschichte der Juden, insbesondere der jüdischen Gemeinde in der Stadt Emmerich, Emmerich 1979, p. 67ff. and most recently in Norbert Kohnen: Emmerich im 20. Jahrhundert, Emmerich 2021, p. 283ff. - note Schüürman archive*

405. Thea Nathan from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to Johanna Meenen in Emmerich, 2 p. (condolences on the death of her husband, has been living with daughter Emmi for several weeks, properties Fischerort and Netterdenscher Weg (?) are once again owned by the family, were represented by Dr Welter, they have not yet heard anything about furniture, silver and linen, Felix Nathan is travelling from New York to Rotterdam on 1 April 1950, Thea Nathan wants to ask him to also visit Mrs Meenen in Emmerich) 12.3.1950

406. Dr A. Welter, lawyer and notary in Emmerich, to the Emmerich town council, town archivist, for the attention of Mr Reimann, 2 pages (provides the information requested by telephone about the Georg Nathan family and other families who used to live in Emmerich) 8.2.1961

407. Thea Nathan from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to Johanna Meenen in Emmerich, 1 p. (congratulates her on her 84th birthday, found out about it from the newspaper that her former husband always sends her) 13.1.1967  
*probably added by Herbert Schüürman - note Schüürman archive*

408. Thea Nathan from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to Mrs Meenen in Emmerich, 3 pp. (was pleased to hear from her old neighbours, no longer has any connection with her old home, only the husband of her former girl used to send her the newspapers, he has now died; he has faithfully maintained the friendship that Thea Nathan had with his first wife; grandson George has married, he has got "a lovely nice girl"; Emmerich has changed a lot in the long years, "almost 30 years have passed since we had to leave Emmerich, but we have found a new home

here, and my girls are happy and content and that is the main thing"; she would be pleased to hear from Mrs Meenen, "one does not forget the old home, even if many bad memories are connected with it") 15.1.1971

## **Sophie and Heinz Nathan collection**

408a. Sophie Nathan's testimony before the German Consulate General in New Orleans to the Ludwigsburg Central Office for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes for the Riga trial against Maywald and others, in English and German, 6 pages each (Sophie Nathan describes life in the Riga ghetto and the liberation by the Danish Red Cross in 1945) 10.9.1963

*Maywald was sentenced to four years imprisonment in 1977 for aiding and abetting murder in at least 320 cases and died in 1998 - subsequently included in the Schüürman archive*

409. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to a "Liesel", 2 p. (Sister-in-law Herta died of cancer in 1967; her sister Grete is married to Rudy Kemp; her mother is not doing so well, so Liesel cannot come to visit) 18.11.1980

410. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 2 p. (condolences on the death of her mother; has heard about the "unfortunate" visit to Emmerich; perhaps a visit can be repeated) 2.1.1984

411. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (has received a copy of the family tree from Rudy Kemp; entire families on the Nathan side have perished) 20.1.1984

412. list with names to picture from 1936 (orig.), 2 p. undated

413. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 2 p. (at the time all graves in the old Jewish cemetery were recorded; Sophie Nathan's grandparents' grave is very well preserved; Hilde Sherman wrote the book "Mädchenjahre im Ghetto", she and her family were deported to Riga on the same train; Sophie Nathan is mentioned by name in the book, can send her the book if required) 10.7.1984  
*Hilde Sherman's book is in the Schüürman archive*

414. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 6 p. (mentions names who were in class with her and her sister; knows Hilde Sherman very well, worked with her in the ghetto for a while; would like two books in return for reimbursement of expenses) 23.7.1984

415. Interview with Sophie Nathan in an American newspaper; "Passover recalls personal exodus" (comments that both bronze candlesticks were removed from the synagogue before the Nazis struck on 9 November 1938 and destroyed the building that had stood for two centuries; father did not want to know about fleeing, said Emmerich was his home, where he had been born and brought up, no one would hurt him; talks about transport to Riga in 1941; candlesticks had been taken from the synagogue and presumably kept in the Nathans' house; after deportation to Riga, a German family lived in their house; after the destruction of Emmerich, they contacted the Nathans and offered the candlesticks for food and clothing; Sophie Nathan contacted a lawyer in Emmerich, and some time later her father-in-law was able to obtain them during a trip to Germany; were given to the Nathans on the occasion of the 50th wedding anniversary of Felix and Ina Nathan. were donated to the Temple Beth El synagogue in the US town of Anniston/Alabama on the occasion of Felix Nathan and his wife's 50th wedding anniversary) undated

*presumably the interview was conducted in 1974, as the article mentions that Sophie's husband Henry died only recently (18 June 1974) - note Schüürman archive*

416. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (has received parcel with the books; has already read many pages; is amazed at how many dates Hilde remembers; wonders how one has endured all this; Liesel Leyser and her mother were sent to Riga with her; Sophie does not know what has become of them) 24.8.1984

417. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 2 p. (sends copy of Thea Nathan's birth certificate, on which a middle name was added during the Nazi era; asks for information about the candlesticks) 10.10.1984

418. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 3 p. (thanks for sending her mother's birth certificate; have no documents or family history from mother's side; she cannot write much about the candlesticks from the Emmerich synagogue, father had bought them to help the Jewish community pay their debts; in early 1950 her mother received a letter from the people who lived in her house after they were deported; wrote that they had saved the candles and wanted to sell them; lawyer Dr. Welter in Emmerich got them back for the family; father-in-law Felix Nathan brought them from Emmerich to the States, Sch.'s research is very interesting, thanks him for his efforts) 17.11.1984

419. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 2 p. (thanks for the Christmas cake; has also received a parcel from Rudy Kemp in which Sophie Nathan participated; encloses birth certificates of Sophie Nathan, her husband and her sister; needs permission to do further genealogical research; asks for the date of the golden wedding anniversary of Mr and Mrs Kemp) *undated*

420. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 3 p. (thanks her for the picture of her father sent to her; gives details of pictures; golden wedding anniversary of the Kemps on 10 October 1985) 10.3.1985

421. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 1 p. (heard about the tragic accident of the Kemps' grandson; prefers a visit from Grete and Rudy Kemp; Ruth Taub from New York also visited Emmerich in August; perhaps Sophie Nathan's visit to Emmerich can be repeated; Jewish cemetery is a listed building; had a picture of the old synagogue drawn from a photo by Max Heymann and old architectural drawings, had one etched in copper for Sophie Nathan and gave it to her) 25.11.1985

422. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 4 S. (thanks her for the parcel with the copperplate engraving of the synagogue in Emmerich; brings back fond memories; Rudy and Grete Kemp have told her about their visit to Emmerich; she is convinced that her visit to Emmerich in 1978 would have been different if she had known Herbert Schüürman; does not think she will come back to Emmerich again, "the memories are too heavy"; asks, as the emetery is a listed building, whether the grandparents' graves are kept in order; her mother would have commissioned a gardener to do this in the 1950s and 1960s; her sister and she would like to pay for the maintenance of the graves) 10. 1.1985

*The date 10.1.1985 instead of 10.1.1986 is probably a typing error when reading the content; see also Dietlind Kautzky/Thomas Käpernick (eds.): "Mein Schicksal ist only one of thousands and thousands". The death march from Hamburg to Kiel 1945. Nine biographies, Hamburg 2022, 2nd ed., p. 84 - note Schüürman archive*

423. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 1 p. (encloses newspaper article about his research; the old cemetery is kept clean by the city and the lawn is mowed; attends a seminar on the preservation of Jewish cemeteries and will then visit a Jewish synagogue for the first time) 3.4.1986

424. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for the parcel with the sounds of home - gummy dolls, liquorice and speculoos; remembers "Grandma Eigeman's" shop where she used to buy liquorice for a few pennies on her way home from school) 9.1.1987

425. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 4 p. (thanks for book about life and fate of Jews in Emmerich; very interesting and read some things she did not know before; wants to add that during "Kristallnacht" SA and SS men also came into the flats, overturned the furniture and broke porcelain and crystal; father was imprisoned for more than a week; was in Cologne herself at the time of "Kristallnacht" and still has the image of the burning synagogue in mind) 18.5.1987

426. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for maps of the Alter Markt and the fishing village; would have brought back many good memories and can now show her children and grandchildren where she lived) 5.1.1988

427. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for newspaper cuttings and picture of the memorial plaque; she was particularly moved by the prayer; she will never forget 9 Nov. 1938, was at school in Cologne at the time; will not forget the burning of the Cologne synagogue, nor that her father was sent to prison; was in Emmerich when he was released ten days later; father was a broken man from that day on; on 10 Nov. 1938 it would be 47 years since he was released. 12. it would be 47 years "that we had to leave Emmerich"; these dates bring back many memories; good to know that young people in Germany are learning what many of their parents and grandparents did) 6.12.1988

428. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 1 p. (informs him that the town of Emmerich and the towns of Kleve and Kalkar will be inviting their former Jewish fellow citizens in September; official invitation still to come; hopes to meet Sophie Nathan in person then) 13.2.1989

429. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for the stamp issued in memory of the "Kristallnacht"; it is particularly interesting for children and grandchildren to see the stamp; as much as she would like to meet Herbert Schüürman and see former acquaintances, she can no longer come back to Emmerich and she knows that she does not have to give Schüürman an explanation) 21.3.1989

430. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to the Mayor of Emmerich, 1 p. (thanks for the generous invitation, but cannot come; she tried in 1978, but the memories are too strong even after 48 years) 21.3.1989

431. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 1 p. (reports on the visit of the former Jewish fellow citizens; wants to send her documentation in the next few days; these days were the highlight of his work and he is happy that he was able to give some people a little joy) 19.12.1989

432. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for the documentation on the visit of the former Jewish residents of Emmerich; has not seen many for a long time, did not know that many of them were still alive; thanks Schüürman for his interest in the survivors and hopes that he will come to America one day so that she can return the favour) 9.1.1990

433. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (nice to have spoken to each other; thanks for a blanket; would like to know who Stephanie Jenster is and asks for her address; Rudy Kemp has told her about Schüürman's award and shown her a picture and newspaper article; congratulates her on being a "ferryman") 14.3.1990

434. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 2 p. (thanks for congratulations on the "Fährmann"; on 30.4. He has enclosed a photo showing him with his wife and his grandson Martin at the award ceremony for the "Fährmann", gives the address of Stephanie Jenster, who is the same age as Sophie Nathan's sister and was in the same class with her; Mrs Jenster's mother had close contact with the Claeßen family, from whom she received some things for safekeeping; everything was destroyed down to the ceiling by aerial bombs; Emmerich History Society wants to publish a book about the history and fate of the Emmerich Jews, he asks her several questions about this) 24.4.1990

435. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 4 p. (reports on school attendance with a one-year degree; wanted to become an infant nurse, but had been advised to attend a domestic school first; was therefore in Cologne from May 1938 to May 1939 and wanted to enrol in the infant school in Berlin after passing her exams, but was not accepted as a Jew; from August 1939 to October 1941 she was an after-school care worker (*educator who supervises the children's schoolwork and organises their free time in an after-school care centre*; source: <https://www.dwds.de/wb/Hortnerin>) at the Jewish horticultural school in Ahlem near Hanover; travelled directly to Emmerich when her parents received the news of the deportation; her father did not provide a horse-drawn carriage for her luggage; it was not necessary, she was only allowed to take one suitcase, which was not allowed to weigh more than 40 pounds; travelled by train to Düsseldorf and taken to a collection camp there; she and her luggage were examined: "We never saw our luggage again") 27.5.1990

436. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 3 p. (sends compiled information for correction, asks whether her mother's letter may be published, encloses an extract from the book "Reichskristallnacht" in Hanover about the horticultural school in Ahlem; visit from Rudy and Grete Kemp in August; two days later Ruth Taub comes to Emmerich) 3.7.1990

437. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (Father was arrested on 9 November 1938 at the train station in Emmerich and spent ten days in the city prison in Emmerich; her husband emigrated to America with his sister Herta in May 1936) 24.7.1990

438. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 1 p. (thanks for Christmas package; reports news from the family; through film by Rudy and Grete Kemp, Sophie Nathan was able to see how Schüürmans live) 21.1.1991

439. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 3 p. (Barbara and George are flying to Paris for a few days and travelling from there to Amsterdam; would then like to come to Emmerich for a day; would like to know if they can meet Herbert Schüürman then; want to take the train; asks for Herbert Schüürman's telephone number so that George can tell them the time of arrival; would like to see Hühnerstraße, where Henry (Heinz) Nathan's parents'



house stood; perhaps he could also show them the fishing village and also the Nathan & Gompertz shop; perhaps he could also tell George where to buy Salmiakpastillen) 8. 9.1991

440. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 1 p. (looking forward to a visit from George and Barbara Nathan, wants to pick them up from the station; informs them of train connections from Amsterdam to Emmerich) 17.9.1991

441. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 3 p. (has translated the last letter from Herbert Schüürman and given it to George and Barbara Nathan; they have changed their travel plans and will rent a car in Paris instead of travelling by train; Barbara does not speak German, but George does, he has heard enough of it while his grandparents were still alive; she does not know how much he speaks, but has told her: "Like all tourists ...") 29.9.1991

442. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks George and Barbara for their hospitality; spoke to George on the phone, he told her everything; thanks to Schüürman's time and effort, George has seen a lot and now knows where his parents and grandparents lived; the children also told her how much candy and Salmiakpastillen Herbert Schüürman had given them; at the meeting in Philadelphia next weekend they would bring her "all the good things") 31.10.1991

443. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (asks for a favour, she and her sister Emmi Loewenstern need a certificate that they lived in Emmerich and were deported from there to Riga) 6.9.1993

444. Certificate from the city of Emmerich that Sophie and Emilie Nathan lived in Emmerich until their deportation to Riga in 1941 16.9.1993

445. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for the certificates; flies to her sister in Philadelphia for ten days; is sure that the book about the Jewish families in Emmerich will be very interesting) 7.10.1993

446. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to the Emmerich Historical Society, Mr Meenen, 2 p. (received book on "Jews in Emmerich"; does not have the words to say what the book means to her; the book brings back memories; for children and grandchildren a family history "that we would never have had without the book"; enclosed cheque is only a small token of her gratitude) 27.2.1994

447. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to the Schüürman family, 2 p. (looking forward to coming; plans to go to Anniston on 6 February to see Herbert Schüürman, his son-in-law and Mr and Mrs von Gimborn; expects the visitors in Birmingham on 11 February; is very pleased that they will finally meet and regrets that Mrs Schüürman is not coming) 17.1.1995

448. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 1 p. (writes again that she is looking forward to the visit) 12.2.1995

449. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 1 p. (thanks for the wonderful days; great experience for him; "everything was so familiar, as if we had known each other since childhood", wonderful Bar Mitzvah celebration in the synagogue and in the house of Barbara and George Nathan; he will remember this trip for a long time; gave a lesson in Catholic religious education at Emmerich Grammar School; he talked about Jewish families who used

to live in Emmerich; after his trip to America he was able to illustrate the lesson with a family tree and current photos) 12.4.1995

449a. Speech by Rabbi Robert B. Slosberg at the Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Ari Nathan in Louisville/Kentucky on 18 March 1995, 1 p. (about H. Sch.: "Here is a righteous man")  
*Subsequently added to the Schüürman archive*

450. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for letter and pictures; is glad and grateful that H. Sch. and Peter Schütte have come: "I feel as if we have always known each other") 4.5.1995

451. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 2 p. (Bar Mitzvah was a great experience; reports on the visit of Werner and Marianne Nathan from Colombia; also a Mr and Mrs Nathan from London were in Emmerich, the grandfather had emigrated to England with his brother shortly before the turn of the century, they were happy to be able to visit their ancestors at the cemetery; Ruth Nathan from New York was also in Emmerich for two days, as were Mr and Mrs Horowitz) 5.1.1996

452. Sophie Nathan from Birmingham/Alabama to H. Sch., 2 pages, double-sided (sends a video cassette she made about her time in Riga, in English, but Peter Schütte will probably help with the translation) 18.1.1997

453. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 1 p. (has heard and seen the video cassette with the interview about her memories of her life with devotion and melancholy) 4.1.1998

454. H. Sch. to Sophie Nathan in Birmingham/Alabama, 1 p. (fondly remembers the dear visit of Alice and Danny; encloses a list of the Caro family, which Sophie Nathan is to give to Alice) 22.1.2000

### **George and Barbara Nathan collection**

455. Barbara and George Nathan from Louisville/Kentucky to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for the fantastic day in Emmerich; learned much of the family history; sends address of Roger Briton, invites to their son Gil's bar mitzvah on 5 September 1992; will then organise visits to Anniston and Birmingham) 24.11.1991  
*George Nathan is the son of Heinz and Sophie Nathan - note Schüürman archive*

456. H. Sch. to George and Barbara Nathan in Louisville/Kentucky, 1 p. (thanks for the invitation to the Bar Mitzvah, but does not dare to make the long journey) 18.7.1992

457. Barbara and George Nathan from Louisville/Kentucky to H. Sch., 1 p. (sends pictures of the visit; have visited John Rohe and family in Michigan) 19.7.1992

458. Barbara and George Nathan from Louisville/Kentucky to H. Sch., 1 p. (thank Herbert Schüürman and his son-in-law Peter Schütte for coming to the Bar Mitzvah; were proud of their presence; received the book "Jews in Emmerich"; it will be given a place of honour) 14.5.1995

459. Newsletter from the Nathan family at the turn of the year 1996, 2 pp.
460. Invitation to the celebration of Ted and Melanie's wedding on 30 November 1997 in Louisville/Kentucky
461. Newsletter from the Nathan family at the turn of the year 1998, 1 p. (have moved to Atlanta)
462. H. Sch. to George and Barbara Nathan in Atlanta/Georgia, 1 p. (greetings at the turn of the year) 4.1.1998
463. H. Sch. to George and Barbara Nathan in Atlanta/Georgia, 1 p. (greetings at the turn of the year) 11.3.1999
464. Newsletter from the Nathan family at the turn of the year 2001, 2 p. (contains the message that Sophie Nathan has moved from Birmingham to Atlanta and Rudy Kemp has died)
465. Newsletter from the George and Barbara Nathan family at the turn of the year 2002, 2 pp.
466. Newsletter of the Nathan family at the turn of the year 2003, 2 p. (Sophie Nathan died; did not get to know her great-grandson born in February)
467. Newsletter from the Nathan family at the turn of the year 2006, 2 pp.
468. H. Sch. to George and Barbara Nathan in Atlanta/Georgia, 1 p. (greetings at the turn of the year) 10.1.2007
469. Newsletter from the Nathan family at the turn of the year 2008, 2 pp.
470. E-mail from George Nathan in Atlanta/Georgia to Peter Schütte, 1 p. 30.1.2008
471. Newsletter from the Nathan family at the turn of the year 2012, 2 pp.
472. Article from the NRZ Emmerich, photos on the back (Ben Nathan visits the Schürman family) 9.7.2012
473. Newsletter from the Nathan family at the turn of the year 2014, 2 pp.
474. E-mail from George Nathan from Atlanta/Georgia to Peter Schütte, 2 p. (plans to visit Emmerich in May next year) 19.7.2015
475. E-mail from George Nathan to Peter Schütte and reply from Peter Schütte, 1 p. (meeting on 1 May 2016 in Emmerich works out; Herbert Schürman in poor health) 21.7.2015

### **Emmi Loewenstern-Nathan collection**

476. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to H. Sch., 2 p. (has read the book written by her sister Sophie Nathan about the Jews of Emmerich; many memories have come back; husband and children were very interested; has translated texts for the children; asks to be sent a book as well) 9.6.1987  
*The book mentioned above is not the standard work "Jews in Emmerich" by*

*M.Brocke/C.Pelzer/H.Schüürman, which was only published in 1993, but most probably the catalogue for Schüürman's exhibition on Jewish families - note Schüürman archive*

477. H. Sch. to Emmi Loewenstern in Philadelphia/Pennsylvania, 1 p. (has sent book; encloses further information; asks many questions about school days; education, "Reichskristallnacht", deportation) 27.8.1987

478. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to H. Sch., 5 p. (46 years have passed since she left Emmerich; thank God she was young enough to start a new life in America; after primary schools she went to a lyceum, which she was not allowed to attend after 10 November 1938. Her father was arrested during the "Kristallnacht", the front door was broken down and the furniture in the rooms was overturned with beautiful porcelain and crystal: "These people - if you can call them people - even took a bowl from the table and threw it into a picture of my grandfather"; because she couldn't do anything in Emmerich, her parents sent her to Frankfurt/Main; learnt to sew there, but courses were also closed; girls were sent to an asbestos factory; however, father didn't give permission for this, she had to come home; months later they heard about sewing courses in Dortmund; parents enrolled her there; but it was not long before the deportations began; in December 1941 the family was "sent away"; at the station they were stripped of the jewellery they were still wearing; good thing they were double and triple dressed, because they never saw their luggage again; collection camp in Düsseldorf; were guarded like criminals; refers to book by Hilde Sherman, who was with her in the Riga ghetto; wants to know how old Herbert Schüürman is and whether he remembers the terrible years in Emmerich) 13. 9.1987

479. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to H. Sch., 3 p. (thanks for newspaper clippings and pictures: "Even if the newspaper clipping says that the surviving Jews of Emmerich are very welcome there, I could never come there again") 12.12.1988

480. H. Sch. to Emmi Loewenstern in Philadelphia/Pennsylvania, 1 p. (informs in advance that the former Jewish fellow citizens are to be invited; can understand the decision that she never wants to come to Emmerich again; nevertheless hopes to be able to welcome them, his wife was expelled from Silesia, has visited her old home again, the visit has given her a certain peace of mind) 12.2.1989

481. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to Mr Mayor Giltjes and Mr City Director Kulka, 1 p. (thanks for invitation, will not come, because after all these years she cannot forget the hard times she had in Emmerich) 20.3.1989

482. H. Sch. to Emmi Loewenstern in Philadelphia/Pennsylvania, 1 p. (wants to send her a small documentary about the visit of the Jewish guests; they were wonderful days of reflection and affection) 19.12.1989

483. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for the documentation) 26.1.1990

484. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to H. Sch., 4 p. (again describes the "Kristallnacht" and her father's arrest, never wants to come to Emmerich again) 28.5.1990

485. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to H. Sch., 2 p. (provides further details) 28.7.1990

486. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to H. Sch., 2 p. (a Holocaust museum was opened in Washington D.C.; was there with her children; wanted to show what cannot be described in words; wrote down her own story for the children, which is also in the museum; wants to ensure that this terrible time is never forgotten; encloses a copy of her story in English) 29.1.1994

487. Life story (copy) of Emmi Nathan-Loewenstern, 6 p. *undated*

488. Translation of the life story of Emmi Nathan-Loewenstern, 16 pp. (School days in Emmerich; "Kristallnacht" and arrest of her father; deportation to Riga; the time in the camp; death of her father; they could not sit shivah, i.e. the observing the mourning period; saying the Kaddish; dissolution of the ghetto; work at the army clothing office; in the coal ship to Hamburg; prison in Fuhlsbüttel; march to Kiel; liberation by Count Bernadotte; the white busses; quarantine and good treatment in Sweden; contact with relatives in America; arrived in the USA in April 1946 after eleven months in Sweden, Sophie met her first Emmerich love, Heinz Nathan, again; marriage in November 1946; Emmi meets her husband Hans and marries on 2 May 1947)

489. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to Hubert Meenen, Chairman of the Emmerich Historical Society, 2 p. (thanks for book "Jews in Emmerich"; is fascinated and reads it every free minute; many things happened that she did not know; hopes that perhaps one day her children or grandchildren will visit Emmerich; will never forget what was done to the family; after all these years still often sleepless nights) 21.2.1994

490. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for book; cousin Hellmut L. Nathan asks who in Emmerich or Germany will buy the book; could not answer the question) 18.3.1994

491. Group photo from 14 April 1995 *no names on the back* – note Schüürman archive

492. Emmi Loewenstern from Philadelphia/Pennsylvania to H. Sch., 1 p. (wonderful time in New York with cousin Louis; probably the last time they saw each other) 28.2.2005

### **(Werner) Bernardo Nathan collection**

493. Bernardo Nathan from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 2 p. (found out about Herbert Schüürman's work from Bernd Sander; also received the family tree from him; provides various details, has been to Emmerich several times to visit the Jewish cemetery; has been head of the German-Jewish community for several years, which was founded in 1939, had around 400 members between 1940 and 1950, now has 150) 9.2.1984

Bernardo Nathan was born on 18 November 1919 in Emmerich, the son of Moritz and Adelheid Nathan. The family emigrated to Colombia in 1937. Bernardo founded a factory for woollen textiles in Cali - note Schüürman archive

494. H. Sch. to Bernardo Nathan in Cali/Colombia, 2 p. (does the work as a member of the historical society; asks questions about descendants and their addresses, reports on the old synagogue candlestick that is travelling to Anniston) 19.2.1984

495. Cost estimate from the Hoffmann company in Emmerich for the burial place of Moritz Nathan 4.8.1988

496. H. Sch. to Bernardo Nathan in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (fondly remembers the pleasant hours of the visit to Emmerich; has received an offer for the inscription plate for his father's grave; in September he opens his exhibition on the Jewish families in Emmerich; asks after receiving the copper plate with the Emmerich synagogue) 14.8.1988
497. Christmas card from Bernardo Nathan in Cali/Colombia to H. Sch. (fondly remembers visit to Emmerich; congratulates on the success of the exhibition; grave slab only after the end of winter) 20.12.1988
498. H. Sch. to Bernardo Nathan in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (informs him that the town of Emmerich wants to invite the former Jewish fellow citizens; looks forward to seeing them again; encloses a booklet about the former Emmerich synagogue) 5.1.1989
499. State Association of Jewish Communities of North Rhine Düsseldorf to H. Sch., 1 p. (it is comforting and hopeful that there are still people in localities who look after Jewish cemeteries as the only evidence of a Jewish community that once existed there; she was very touched by the intention to have the gravesites restored) 3.3.1989
500. H. Sch. to Bernardo Nathan in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (looking forward to meeting former Jewish fellow citizens; has ordered a gravestone for her father's grave) 16.5.1989
501. Translation of a newspaper article from the "Union" in Cali/Colombia, written by Bernardo Nathan, 3 pp. (reports on the invitation of the city of Emmerich to the former Jewish fellow citizens; it was an incredible journey and an unforgettable experience; there are still 20 Jewish people born in Emmerich scattered all over the world, five have accepted the invitation, some could not because of their old age, others did not want to, which is to be respected, but from his point of view wrong; has felt deep openness and honesty; many have duelled at the end; no farewell with a handshake, but with a hug and with some with tears) *undated*
502. Christmas card from Bernardo Nathan from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch. (hopes that newspaper clipping has arrived; Ruth Taub snapped 36 films at the meeting of former Jewish fellow citizens in Emmerich) 9.12.1989
503. Carl Hans von Gimborn to Bernardo Nathan in Cali/Colombia, 2 p. (Visit was nice; at the moment the circumstances are not such that he can travel to Colombia; wishes for safety; reports on his travel plans to the USA; has also planned to visit Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama) 4.1.1990
504. H. Sch. to Bernardo and Marianne Nathan in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (in August, Rudy and Grete Kemp from Anniston/Alabama come to Emmerich with their eldest son; will also visit Gotthilf Nokielski in Essen; Ruth Taub comes for five days in October; he has received two awards for his work, was particularly pleased that Gotthilf Nokielski came from Essen despite his old age) 2.7.1990
505. H. Sch. to Bernardo and Marianne Nathan in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (visit from Barbara and George Nathan from Kentucky in November 1991; 14 days ago Rudy and Grete from Anniston/Alabama were in Emmerich with their two granddaughters) 20 Jan. 1992
- 506 H. Sch. to Bernardo and Marianne Nathan in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (Gotthilf Nokielski has died; asks for the date of death and whether there is still contact with the son) 8.1.1997

507. Bernardo Nathan from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch. (on his 80th birthday, the Jewish community surprised him with a meal with 95 people; two days later, the community celebrated its 60th anniversary with the participation of the Israeli ambassador; wife Marianne has died; being alone is difficult; plans a trip to Europe and has a companion who only speaks Spanish, a nice and pleasant person) 31.12.1999

508. Bernardo Nathan and Jesusa from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for life certificate; will marry in a civil ceremony on 24 August 2002; encloses invitation; Ruth Taub has had cancer surgery in New York; nothing good to report from the country; hopes that a new president together with the USA will put an end to the guerrillas) 24.7.2002

509. H. Sch. to Bernardo & Jesusa Nathan in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (greetings for the New Year; sends picture with family photo) 10.1.2007

### **Elisabeth Nokielski-Nathan collection**

510. Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to city director Hubert Fink in Emmerich, 1 p. (thanks for sending the family tree; there are still many formalities to be completed in the matter of emigration; time of departure will be delayed; will say goodbye before departure) 7.9.1947  
*Elisabeth (Elly) Nokielski, born 16 March 1904, was the daughter of Moritz Nathan, butcher, Kaßstraße, and married Gotthilf Nokielski, non-Jew; lived in Essen, then Bad Meinberg - note Schüürman archive*

511. Transcript of a process, presumably at the residents' registration office of the town of Emmerich, 1 p. (Mrs Nokielski is written to dated 31 Jan. 1961 and asked for information on who de-registered with her to Essen on 23 Dec. 1941; furthermore, it is asked where Emilie Löwenstern, née Nathan, lived; with date from 31 Jan. 1961. Nathan, lived; dated 2 March 1961, Mrs Nokielski informs us that she de-registered alone on 23 December 1941, she is not aware of anyone else; she has never heard the name Emilie Löwenstern, née Nathan, in Emmerich) 3.3.1983

512. H. Sch. to Mrs Nokielski, 1 p. (asks various questions, including whether the synagogue was set on fire on "Kristallnacht") 26.9.1983

513. Dr. Hans Nokielski from Essen to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks him on behalf of his parents for their interest in the life and work of the Jews in Emmerich; this is a work of almost incalculable value, especially for the descendants; sheds light on a part of his own identity; mother wants to answer the son's questions as far as possible, but he should only pass them on in a personal conversation with H. Sch., he can also come to Emmerich, as he often has work to do in the Netherlands) *undated*

514. H. Sch. to Dr. Nokielski in Essen, 1 p. (pleased about a visit after a telephone conversation with him; encloses directions; further questions) 1.11.1983

515. H. Sch. to Mrs Nokielski in Essen, 1 p. (congratulations on her 80th birthday; has added grandson Ben to the Nathan family tree; candlestick is being sent to Anniston/Alabama) 14.3.1984

516. Elly and Gotthilf Nokielski from Bad Meinberg in the Harz Mountains to H. Sch., 1 p. (Mrs Nokielski's health is not good, so her husband thanks her for the congratulations and the grandson's entry in the family tree; photo of the candlestick reminds Mrs Nokielski of a happy childhood and young girlhood in her home town of Emmerich) 26.3.1984

517. Christmas card from Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to the Sch. family (had circulatory collapse; wife died; spent the holidays alone for the first time; doctor had advised against travelling to Holland to visit children; they visited him before Christmas) *undated*

518. Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to H. Sch., 1 p. and enclosure with pictures (thanks for the friendly reception at Sch.'s house during his visit together with brother-in-law Werner Nathan and his wife Marianne; urges him to express his appreciation to H. Sch. for his extensive work in memory of former Emmerich fellow citizens of the Jewish faith) 1.7.1988

519. H. Sch. to Gotthilf Nokielski in Essen, 1 p. (was pleased to meet him personally; spent pleasant hours with Mr N. and Mr and Mrs Nathan; asks further questions about family members) 11.7.1988

520. Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for documents, including press article about the exhibition on Jewish families; the young reporter had correctly reproduced everything he had told him, but that had only been the first part, then the opening speech had begun, would have liked to express that at that time there were also "It was after the pogrom night - at a time when hardly anyone dared to greet a Jewish citizen on the street - that Dr Bisping took in my seriously ill father-in-law and not only operated on him, but also expressed his compassion through his visits to his bedside. The honourable nurses at Emmerich Hospital deserve equal praise and thanks for the loving care they gave my father-in-law until his last breath." Had a call from Grete and Rudy Kemp from Anniston, they are very keen for H. Sch. to come to them, he should encourage him to do so, Rudy wants to send the tickets, he is also invited) *undated*

521. H. Sch. to Gotthilf Nokielski in Essen, 1 p. (gladly accepts the offer of a joint trip to America; encloses a small brochure about the Emmerich synagogue; nothing more heard from Werner Nathan since his visit; wanted a new inscription plate on his father's grave, had a cost proposal made) 20.12.1988

522. Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to H. Sch., 1 p. (health condition not good; cannot make the planned trip to the USA at the moment) 1.3.1989

523. Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to H. Sch., 1 p. (has received and accepted an invitation from the city to an event in August/September 1989) *undated/1989*

524. Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to H. Sch., 1 p. (looking forward to the days in Emmerich; son does not need a room, but will attend the reception of the city of Emmerich on 31 August, the visit to the Jewish cemetery and the lunch; on 2 September the son will come to the opening of the exhibition with his wife and 5-year-old grandson Ben) 11.8.1989

525. Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to H. Sch., 1 p. (the wonderful days in Emmerich live on in him; old friendships sealed anew, new ones made; is proud that the already more than good acquaintance has turned into a friendship; found expression in the intimate "Du") 20.9.1989

526. H. Sch. to Gotthilf Nokielski in Essen, 1 p. (has received the "Fährmann"; asks questions about people in a photo) 7.2.1990



527. Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to H. Sch., 2 p. (was in Bad Meinberg for a week and a half, where he had lived for 17 years; receives mail from brother-in-law Erich from Israel every four to six weeks, but he never mentions the subject of Emmerich, although he had asked him about it several times; gives the address of Erich's daughter, but assumes that she does not speak German; names the people in the photos that H. Sch. had asked about) *undated*

528. Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to H. Sch., 1 p. (has health problems) *undated*

529. Gotthilf Nokielski from Essen to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for sending the life's work "Jews in Emmerich"; every German of good will, but especially young people in the country, should get their hands on this valuable book) 30.12.1993

### **Joel Georg Nathan collection**

530. H. Sch. to Joel Georg Nathan, born 1923 in Weeze, son of Hermann and Toni Nathan from Emmerich, in Holon/Israel, 1 p. (first letter for the purpose of data collection) 20.2.1984  
*Joel Georg Nathan, born 1923 in Weeze, son of Hermann and Sidonie (Toni) Nathan from Emmerich, cousin of Bernardo Nathan from Colombia - note Schüürman archive*

531. Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to H. Sch., 3 p. (Nathan family completely dispersed; hopes that the family tree will help his children to become interested in their ancestors; has spent most of his school holidays in Emmerich; on all his visits to Europe it was a matter of course for him to visit Emmerich and the Jewish cemetery, gives addresses) 14.4.1984

532. H. Sch. to Joel Georg Nathan in Holon/Israel, 2 p. (sends, among other things, a booklet about the new Jewish cemetery, marriage and birth certificates) 3.12.1984

533. H. Sch. to Joel Georg Nathan in Holon/Israel, 1 p. (has learned that Nathan is planning a trip to Europe and wants to visit Emmerich; invites him; sends pictures of the Kempenich family's visit; Kurt Leyser is coming to Emmerich) 1.6.1986

534. Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (peace is lacking; still remembers his father's words, who always said that all those who lived through the First World War would never allow the madmen of the world to start another war; unfortunately, this idea was rather naive; spent school holidays in Emmerich; everything is still fresh in his memory; Uncle Felix picked him up from the station with a horse and cart; Schützenfest: Uncle Felix with hat and feathers) 8.2.1993

535. Christmas card from Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to H. Sch. 14.12.1993

536. Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (book means more to him than a scientific investigation into a group of people of a different faith that will soon be extinct; for him a step back to one of the best times of his life) 11.3.1994

537. H. Sch. to Joel Georg Nathan in Holon/Israel, 1 p. (thanks him for the book on Israel) 10.5.1994

538. Carl Hans von Gimborn to Joel Georg Nathan in Holon/Israel, 2 p. (special experience of having met him and his wife; took a lot of time for an exchange of ideas; as people of the same age, despite a very different path in life, they still have an intellectual agreement in many things, felt particularly attracted to Emmerich) 26.8.1994

539. Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for reception in Emmerich; days were particularly beautiful; searched for the ferry, "but the bridge is proof that we should free ourselves from the past") 11.9.1994

540. Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to C. H. von Gimborn, 2 p. (you meet a complete stranger, and after just a few minutes a mutual understanding develops; H. Sch. was probably the one who managed to thaw the feelings; H. Sch. made him relive times long past and faded) 5.10.1994

541. H. Sch. to Joel Georg Nathan in Holon/Israel, 2 p. (reports on trip to America; visits from Werner and Marianne Nathan and Ruth Taub) 5.1.1996

542. Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (special visit from America: George and Barbara Nathan were in Israel, a real pleasure to see a relative again) 4.2.1996

543. H. Sch. to Joel Georg Nathan in Holon/Israel, 1 p. (is in the process of saving the family chronicles on discs) 4.1.1998

544. Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (travelling to Eilat with his wife, son and daughter-in-law; perhaps also to Petra in Jordan; must get used to the fact that there are open borders) 9.3.1999

545. Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for extract from book about Jewish families in Gelderland, can only dimly remember, as his parents had moved to Dortmund) 6.2.2001

546. Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (often thinks of the beautiful days in Emmerich; he still remembers the Baustraße house, the pear tree in the garden and the rain barrel in the courtyard) 13.1.2002

547. Joel Georg Nathan from Holon/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (sad event in the family: son Gil has taken his own life because he was unemployed) 16.1.2005

### **Ludwig Rohe collection**

548. H. Sch. to Ludwig Rohe in Novi/Michigan, 1 p. (received address from Dr Hermann Roers from Elten; so far unable to make contact with the Nathan branch of the family from Elten; grandparents' grave is still preserved; inscription plaque unfortunately destroyed) 23.9.1987  
*Ludwig Rohe, born 18 March 1913, was the son of Johann Rohe, teacher in Cologne, non-Jew, and Arabella Rohe, née Nathan, from Elten - note Schüürman archive*

549. Handwritten list by H. Sch., names of the Mies and Rohe families *undated*

550. Ludwig Rohe from Novi/Michigan to H. Sch., 3 p. (thanks for family tree; sends photos from Elten; information on family members) 23.5.1988

551. H. Sch. to Ludwig Rohe in Novi/Michigan, 2 p. (thanks for the detailed information; still has some questions; exhibition about Jewish families in Emmerich; has also given lectures on this topic) 15.8.1988

552. Ludwig Rohe from Novi/Michigan to H. Sch., 2 p. (gives further details; emigrated to the USA in 1938; was in Germany in 1946 and 1947; spent his summer holidays in Elten until the age of 16; was the best time of his life) 29.8.1988

553. Christmas greetings from Ludwig Rohe from Novi/Michigan to H. Sch., 2 cards  
4.12.1989

554. H. Sch. to Ludwig Rohe in Novi/Michigan, 1 p. (reports on visit by former Jewish fellow citizens in Emmerich; wants to send documentation) 18.12.1989

555. H. Sch. to Ludwig Rohe in Novi/Michigan, 1 p. (surprised by call from train station in summer; unfortunately little time; sends will of Uncle Samuel; grandsons say they never received anything about it; years ago a man from Elten told him that Uncle Bernhard had sold the house to butcher Pütz; whether he personally received the money; he wants to send documentation).or whether it was confiscated by the state, he did not know) 17.12.1990

556. H. Sch. to Ludwig Rohe in Novi/Michigan, 1 p. (book about the Emmerich Jews will be published) 2.1.1993

### **John F. Rohe collection**

557. John Rohe from Petoskey/Michigan to H. Sch., 2 p. (in English) 15.6.1989

*John F. Rohe, born 14 October 1950, is the son of Ludwig Rohe from his first marriage to Edith Engelke and grandson of Arabella Rohe, née Nathan from Elten and Johann Rohe, a non-Jew from Cologne. John and his wife Debbie were guests at the opening of the Jewish Cultural Space in the PAN Art Forum Emmerich in June 2019 - note Schüürman archive*

558. Translation of the above letter dated 14 August 1989, 1 p. (refers to his father Ludwig Rohe, who received a copy of the Nathan family tree two years ago; provides additional information on the family tree; this family tree enabled him to find his relative George Nathan and his wife Barbara; was invited to the Bar Mitzvah of George's son and thus got to know many family members; was an overwhelming experience for him; was only possible because of the family tree)

559. John Rohe from Petoskey/Michigan to Rudy Kemp in Anniston/Alabama, 2 p. (sends various documents to Rudy Kemp with this letter; emphasises that this part of the family would never have met without H. Sch.) 25.10.1989

560. Newspaper article from the "Petoskey News-Review" (report on Republican Debbie Rohe) 4.11.1992

561. Flyer from Debbie Rohe about her candidacy *undated*

562. John Rohe from Petoskey/Michigan to H. Sch., 1 p. with handwritten translation (can't thank H. Sch. enough for bringing them together with the Nathan family; one of the most rewarding experiences of his life) 29.3.1995

563. E-mail from John Rohe to a Jan, 1 p. (were in Koblenz in October; spent most of the time in Trier, his mother's hometown; encloses photo) 4.11.2006

564. Photo of the Rohe family, summer 2006

565. E-mail from John Rohe to Peter Schütte, 1 p. (details of family tree; son Karl married Sara Fernandes Taylor on 18 September 2010; are forever grateful to H. Sch.) 24.7.2011

566. E-mail and photo from John Rohe to H. Sch., 2 p. (became grandparents on 31 May 2011) 24.12.2011

567. E-mails between John Rohe and Peter Schütte, 1 p. (H. Sch. brought four generations together; cannot express how valuable his work was) 16./17.8.2015

### **Dr. Heinz Gißke collection**

568. H. Sch. to Dr. Heinz Gißke in Krefeld, 1 p. (has address of cousin Ludwig Rohe from America; asks for help in drawing up the family tree) 30.5.1988

*Dr. Heinz Gißke (born 19.4.1923) was the son of Friederika Gißke, née Nathan, who was married to Willi Gißke from Elten; H.G. later practised as a doctor in Krefeld - note Schüürman archive*

569. Dr. Heinz Gißke from Krefeld to H. Sch., 1 p. (after receiving the letter, good, but also sad memories; admires the work of H. Sch.; knows the picture sent to him with his mother; had to be destroyed at the time: "Mother only survived the terrible time because good people had hidden her when they wanted to deport her to Theresienstadt in February 1945"; personal details) 5.6.1988

570. H. Sch. to Dr. Heinz Gißke in Krefeld, 1 p. (asks for further details; encloses photo of the family from 1930) 12.8.1988

571. Dr. Heinz Gißke from Krefeld to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks H. Sch. especially for the photo because it is the only one showing the large family) 15.8.1988

### **Roger Nathan collection**

572. H. Sch. to Roger Nathan in Richmond/British Columbia in Canada, 2 p. (has received address from his brother Bernardo; sends list of the Nathan family, many gaps still need to be filled) 20.2.1984

*Roger Nathan, born 17.7.1944 in London, son of Oscar Nathan, born 4.8.1893 London, and Betty Thomas. Oscar Nathan in turn is a son of Siegmund Nathan, born 8 Nov. 1858 in Emmerich, and Johanna Hirschland, born 19 Mar. 1866 in Essen - note Schüürman archive*

573. Christmas card from Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch. (information on what the family members are currently doing) *undated/1997?*

574. Information sheet (orig.) about the company where Roger Nathan works, 2 p. *Undated*

575. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (eight months of self-study to learn enough German to write a letter, albeit with the help of a computer; fondly remembers the visit to the Schüürmans and the visit to the Jewish cemetery, thanks Schüürman for his excellent research work; has made many business trips, was in England with June and Dick Nathan, nephew David is in Paderborn to improve his German) 3.8.1998

576. H. Sch. to Roger Nathan in Richmond/B.C., 1 p. (writes of heart operation and rehab; has received documents from New York about the Hirschland family brothers) 28.2.1999

577. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 2 p. (gives details of other people) 1.7.1999
578. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and information about family members; Tony has married) 1999
579. H. Sch. to Roger Nathan in Richmond/B.C., 1 p. (congratulations on the wedding; son-in-law has opened a practice; had a visit from Alice Burkett-Caro from Atlanta, whose mother Hertha Nathan lived in Emmerich before emigrating to America) 22.1.2000
580. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and information about family members) *undated/2000*
581. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Warm Christmas greetings and some further information about the family members) *probably 2001, although handwritten note 2000 - note Schüürman archive*
582. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 card (has the opportunity to visit the Schüürmans during a business trip to Germany; wants to arrive on 12 May 2002 at 9.25 a.m. by train from Düsseldorf) 21.4.2002
583. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and further information about the family members) *Letter probably dates from 2002, although handwritten note was made in 2001 - note from Schüürman archive*
584. E-mail from Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to Peter Schütte, 1 p. (thanks for the translation help during his visit; gives further details) 20.2.2002
585. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and information about family members) 2003
586. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and information about family members) 2004
587. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and info about family members) 12/2005
588. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and info about family members) 2006
589. H. Sch. to Roger Nathan in Richmond/B.C., 1 p. (thanks for Christmas greetings, wheelchair has been ordered) 10.1.2007
590. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and information about family members) 12/2007
591. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and information about family members) 12/2008
592. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and information about family members) 12/2009

593. Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to H. Sch., 1 p. (Christmas greetings and information about family members) 12/2010

594. E-mail from Roger Nathan from Richmond/B.C. to Peter Schütte, 1 p. (to pass on to H. Sch. that his daughter Victoria has married Alice Nathan) 2.10.2011

### **Dick Nathan collection**

596. June and Dick Nathan from Kenton/Middlesex in Great Britain to H. Sch., 1 p. (were glad to have met H. Sch.; amazed at all he has found out about the Nathan family; enclose the family tree they have drawn up so far) 16.10.1995

*Richard (Dick) Nathan, born 28.3.1947 in London, son of Oscar Nathan and Betty Thomas - note Schüürman archive*

597. H. Sch. to June and Dick Nathan in Kenton/Middlesex in Great Britain, 1 p. (sends family tree of the Nathan family, which he has completed; asks for verification; asks for dates of John and Daphne; would also like to complete this branch of the family; encloses small family tree of the Hirschland family) 6.2.1996

598. June and Dick Nathan from Kenton/Middlesex in Great Britain to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for sending the family tree of the Hirschland family; H. Sch. has completed the family tree of the Nathan family well; have met with cousin John and cousin Daphne; in England family tree research is a great hobby; anyone can go to St. Catherine's House in London free of charge and find birth and marriage certificates as well as death certificates since 1837, for certificates you have to pay; enclose a list of what they have collected so far) 25.2.1996

599. List of the Nathan Family, 1 p. 24.2.1996

600. June and Dick Nathan from Kenton/Middlesex in Great Britain to H. Sch., 1 p. (Roger Nathan from Canada, Dick's brother, is coming to visit; would like to make a short trip to Emmerich with him; ask if they can meet up with H. Sch. again; would like to show Roger the cemetery) 30.5.1996

601. H. Sch. to June and Dick Nathan in Kenton/Middlesex in the UK, 1 p. (are at home and looking forward to seeing him again; gives his telephone number and the telephone number of the hotel "Stadt Emmerich") 3.6.1996

602. June, Dick and Roger Nathan to H. Sch. (thanks for the great hospitality during their visit to Emmerich; Schüürmans have taken a lot of time and effort to make the visit so interesting) 13.6.1996

603. June and Dick Nathan from Kenton/Middlesex in Great Britain to H. Sch., 1 p. (have visited cemetery in Golders Green, Siegmund's gravestone has fallen over; Siegmund is said to have died in Freiburg/Baden; have found Peter Jacobs, the grandson of Louise Nathan; have only spoken briefly on the phone so far; want to meet him later; is married and has children; further information for the family tree will follow) 21.7.1996

604. June and Dick Nathan from Kenton/Middlesex in Great Britain to H. Sch., 1 p. (have met with Peter Jacobs and Walter Wolfram; enclose part of Carl Nathan's family tree; have passed on Schüürman's name to them; they may get in touch) 8.12.1996

605. list of the "Family of Carl Nathan", 1 p. 23.11.1996

606. H. Sch. to June and Dick Nathan in Kenton/Middlesex in Great Britain, 1 p. (has received the death certificate of Siegmund Nathan from Freiburg, died there in a deaconess house; was probably on a business trip; sends the family tree of the Salomon Herz Hirschland family by separate mail; should endeavour to obtain the data of the brothers Marcus Herz Hirschland and Jonas Herz Hirschland, whom they have lent; now owns a computer typewriter with inkjet printer and floppy disks to store data; great relief for him, but still has to learn how to use the thing) 8.1.1997

607. June and Dick Nathan from Kenton/Middlesex in Great Britain to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for the family tree of the Hirschland family; great work; John Nathan or Daphne Mendes must have the book with the data, when it is back they will contact him) 16.2.1997

608. H. Sch. to June and Dick Nathan in Kenton/Middlesex, 1 p. (reports on heart operation and rehab; has received the missing documents on the other brothers of the Hirschland family from the Leo Baeck Institute in New York and wants to photocopy and send them) 28.2.1999

609. June and Dick Nathan from Kenton/Middlesex to H. Sch., 1 p. (H. Sch. must have had a lot of work with family trees; Hirschland family tree must be much larger than Nathan's; are curious to see what else he finds out) 31.3.1999

**V. Letters by Jews from Emmerich, folder Sander/Ruth Taub family, Sign. Ja 173**

**Bernd (Bernardo) Sander collection**

610. Biographical notes on Bernd (Bernardo) Sander *undated*

*Bernd Sander was born on 12 September 1925 in Emmerich and trained as a confectioner in Bogota (Colombia). His father Moritz was the last head of the Jewish community in Emmerich and died in Cali in 1975 - note Schüürman archive*

611. Certificate of honour at the IHC athletics championships in Coburg 11.7.1937

612. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to the mayor in Emmerich, 1 p. (would be very pleased if the town of Emmerich would also invite former Jewish fellow citizens to the 750th anniversary celebrations; biogr. Notes; reply from the town not enclosed) 9.11.1983

613. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 2 p. (introduces himself and his work on the family trees; asks for data on his family; asks whether it is true that his father Moritz Sander was able to rescue candlesticks from the synagogue to the USA; Felix Nathan was able to rescue further candlesticks and utensils; Torah curtains are in Israel) 10.1.1984

614. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 2 pp (father had saved a Torah scroll from the synagogue, which is now in the synagogue in Bogota; father was the last community leader in Emmerich and had dissolved the synagogue; annoyed that he had not even received an acknowledgement of receipt of his letter from Mayor Wolters; provides further information about his family) 29.1.1984

615. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (showed the mayor his letter, said he had replied to Sander; has further questions about the family) 25.2.1984

616. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (asks whether he has received the letter of 25 February; has further questions) 10.7.1984

617. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia) to H. Sch., 2 pp. (information on his family; still has two small candlesticks from the Emmerich synagogue; father had engraving made "Synagoge Emmerich am Rh. 28 July 1812 - 14 August 1938"; encloses copy from the Israelitisches Familienblatt of 25.8.1938) 18.7.1984

618. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (Supplements to family data) 12.8.1984

619. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 2 p. (has received both letters; thanks for clipping from the newspaper from 1938; sees this as confirmation of his assumption that the synagogue was not burnt out in the so-called "Reichskristallnacht" in 1938, but was destroyed in the heavy air raid on 7 October 1944; provides the names of the community leaders; encloses photo of the ruins of the synagogue) 4.9.1984

620. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (has not heard from B.S. for two years; reports on visits by Ruth Taub, Michael Heymann and Kurt Leyser; Heymann had provided him with a partial translation of the Emmerich Memor Book1 ; Dr. Cohen from the Central



Archives in Jerusalem was able to identify the old gravestones in the Wassenbergstraße cemetery from his photos; according to this, the oldest gravestone dates from 1646 and belongs to Mordechai Gompertz and his wife Similie) 6.8.1987

621. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (it is only through H. Sch. that he is still in contact with his "old home") 20.8.1987

622. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia), 1 p. (with picture of the synagogue based on an old construction drawing; asks for photos, family details; with family tree) 28.8.1987

623. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 2 p. (archive and all material of the dissolved congregation had gone either to Düsseldorf or Cologne, as that was the last seat of the congregations; details of his father, "proud cuirassier" and EK bearer of the First World War, the military pass shows 17 battles and engagements; sends family photos and asks for them to be returned later) 15.11.1987

624. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (thanks for family photos; plans an exhibition in May and wants to enlarge and show the photos) 9.12.1987

625. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (Werner Nathan and his wife, also from Cali, were very touched by the Sch.'s hospitality in Emmerich; he is almost a little envious; invites Sch. to Colombia, he has a guest room with a bathroom) 15.8.1988

626. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (thanks for the invitation to Cali; wants to visit the Kempenich family in the USA, perhaps there will be a side trip to Colombia; informs him that the city wants to invite its former Jewish fellow citizens for September) *early 1989*

627. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (he had read in the family tree about relatives of whom he had known nothing; a film about the Sobibor concentration camp, in which his cousin Emmi Elkan and her husband perished, had been shown on television: "It's different to be told 'your relatives have perished' than to be shown in a film "how everything was and in what a terrible, unbelievable way it happened"; looks forward to Emmerich visit) 15.1.1989

628. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (has been able to expand the Sanders' family tree; informs him who has already confirmed their attendance in September) 2.4.1989

629. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to the Mayor of Emmerich, 1 p. (thanks for the kind invitation; is pleased to see many Emmerich residents from his youth again; it will be a "special event", even though he had already been in Emmerich for a day 25 years ago) 2.4.1989

630. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (the meeting only came about thanks to H. Sch.'s "wonderful work"; he is probably expecting "the feeling of not having completely lost his homeland") 16.4.1989

631. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (guests would all be accommodated in the quietly situated hotel "Auf der Heide" in Hochelten in rooms with WC and bath/shower; informs him of the list of participants) 12.5.1989

632. Newspaper collective on the 40th anniversary of the "Panaderia Sander" (bakery) in Cali/Colombia, 2 p., in: "Occidente" of 11 June 1989
633. Bernd Sander, currently Ghent/Belgium, to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanking him for the wonderful days in Emmerich; Sch. had made you feel at home, like friends you don't meet every day in your life; enclosing a "small gift" as a thank you) 12.9.1989
634. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (his whole family had felt right at home with Sch.; travel stops in Europe, USA) 16.10.1989
635. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (people had got used to the unrest in the country, there was little they could do about it anyway; the government, military and police were fighting as much as they could and as much as they were allowed to; unfortunately, many of the big politicians and rich people were involved in the unrest. The guerrillas are involved, so that it is not always possible to fight with any prospect of success, because everything is already betrayed before the attack; there are an insane number of deaths every day, and it is not always known whether they are the right ones or whether they are simple farm labourers or real bandoleros; the first elections are in eight days; the guerrillas want to prevent voting in the countryside) 5.3.1990
636. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 2 p. (private information about the daughters; reports on forthcoming visits by Kemps and Ruth Taub; has questions about the Kanter family; encloses a galley proof for Sander's book "Jews in Emmerich") 1.7.1990
637. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (congratulates H. Sch. on honours; information on the Kanter family) 22.10.1990
638. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (reports on Monika Herweg's visit, who can report in detail after her return) 7.8.1992
639. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (private matters; announces publication of his book "Jews in Emmerich" and wants to send copies; gravestones in the old Jewish cemetery are being restored; Prof. Gerhard Jacob from Porto Alegre, son of Dr Walter Jacob, and Ruth Taub with her new husband have visited Sch.) 2.1.1993
640. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (has bought and rebuilt a new house in a "very good neighbourhood"; congratulates him on the book: "If there were more Herbert Schüürmans in the world, it would look very different"; Monika Herweg should do a bit of propaganda for Colombia, as she liked it so much) 17.1.1993
641. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (today is the census and you have to stay at home all day, and this is a good opportunity to write; asks whether the book has already been published and whether Sch. has made any progress with his studies; it would be nice to be together again: "The city of Emmerich could invite you again") 24.10.1993
642. E.W. Isaacson from Givatayim/Israel to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for letter of 10 May and book; it is a "great achievement of documentation, especially of the historical facts of the Jews of Klever Land, their ancestry, their history and their downfall, which can compete with the best books of its kind": "You are one of the bearers of the no longer existing Jewry in Germany") 1.6.1994

643. Christmas and New Year's greetings from Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch. (unfortunately did not manage to celebrate his 70th in Germany; opens another bakery) *Turn of the year 1995/96 - note Schüürman archive*
644. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (reports on his trip to the USA with his son-in-law and von Gimborns in spring 1995 and his visit to the Rudy Kemp family in Anniston/Alabama; the highlight was the Bar Mitzvah of Ben Nathan, a grandson of Sophie Nathan, in Louisville) 5.1.1996
645. Christmas greetings card from Bernd Sander from Cali/ Colombia to H. Sch. (business has generally become difficult in Colombia; often thinks of the good days in Emmerich; his sister Ilse from Venezuela has moved to Cali with her husband in old age) 12/1996
646. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (saves the Jewish family chronicles on disc; in addition to the Emmerich families, also works on the names Windmüller, Spier, Plaat, Oster, Cussel, Herschel, Hirschland, David, Emmerich, Schürmann and Bouscher; Ruth Taub was once again in Emmerich and is still a "bundle of energy, but also very unrealistic"; after her visit had some written arguments with her again; also sends greetings to the Bernardo Nathan family ) 6.1.1998
647. Bernd Sander from Cali/Colombia to H. Sch., 1 p. (Marianne Nathan in Cali has died; is travelling with his family to a world stamp exhibition in Nuremberg on 26 April to present his airmail collection from Colombia; wants to call from the road, but does not think it will work out with a meeting in Emmerich) 21.3.1999
648. H. Sch. to Bernd Sander in Cali/Colombia, 1 p. (has not reached B.S. by telephone; B.S.'s wish to send him 2 kg of caraway seeds from Germany raises difficulties and questions; airmail delivery and customs charges very high) 18.4.2005  
*Bernd Sander (94) died on 1 November 2019 in Santa Marta and was buried in Cali - note Schüürman archive*

## **Max and Erich Sander collection**

649. Entry permit application (copy) from Max Sander from Oberhausen (born 13.7.1891 in Hurl, Krs. Rees) to the government of the Republic of Uruguay dated 29.5.1939, 2 pp. (requests permission for free entry for himself, his wife Erna and his children, Erich, 14, and Margarete, 12 years old; his brother-in-law Louis Franken in Montevideo is prepared to provide a security deposit of 1000 dollars; he is 47 years old, a German Jew severely injured in the war; the German government wanted the Jews to emigrate; he would submit any authorisation to the German government and thus obtain the transfer of his war pension; this would ensure that his family's livelihood in Uruguay was secured and that he would not be a burden to anyone) 29. 5.1939
650. Erich (Ehud) Sander from Haifa/Israel to H. Sch., 1 p. (expresses surprise and delight at the family tree sent to him; provides further information on his family from Empel) 14.4.1989
651. Erich (Ehud) Sander from Haifa/Israel to H. Sch, 1 S. (knows Emmerich from earlier visits to the Franken family; after the "Kristallnacht" his parents sent him and his sister to Holland; the sister stayed with a Jewish family and was sent to a concentration camp in 1943 and never returned; he worked in a Hachshara centre where Jewish pioneers were trained for Israel; went underground after its dissolution and worked in France with false papers as a Dutch

labourer in a submarine shipyard for the German Wehrmacht; when things got too dicey, he fled across the Pyrenees to Spain in 1943; arrived in Palestine on a Portuguese ship; founded a kibbutz in Israel, took part in various Middle East wars and became a policeman; has been to Germany several times) 1. 7.1989

652. Letter from Bertha Johanning, née Sander, from Bremen to Hermann Terlinden, town archivist in Rees, 4 p. (Stages from her life with anecdotes; B.J. was born on 23 May 1898 in Haldern in a Jewish family that had been resident in Haldern since 1840; Max Sander was her cousin and Moritz Sander from Emmerich was his brother)

*Letter is dated 29 September 1978 and was only published in 1985, presumably in "Haldern einst und jetzt" under the title "Eine alte Haldernerin erinnert sich", pp. 93-96, with a biographical note by Dieter Zielke from Rees - note Schüürman archive*

## **Ruth Taub-Nathan collection**

653. First sheet: birth certificate (2 copies, barely legible) with official marginal notes regarding Ruth Nathan, apparently in connection with emigration to the USA in 1939; including birth certificate of Ruth Kühne in Barmen 23.2.1931; note dated 25.5.1925 on adoption by Isaak and Lisette Nathan, née Harf, in Emmerich; note dated 22. May 1939, according to which the child is named exclusively "Nathan"; note dated 28 Dec. 1938, according to which the first name "Sara" is to be used in addition to Ruth and finally deletion of the above marginal note on 19 Oct. 1948); 2nd sheet: List "Families and independent households" about cattle dealer Isaak Nathan and wife Lisette)

654. District Welfare Association asks Düsseldorf Welfare Office to check whether Ruth Nathan can voluntarily contribute to the support costs for her parents Isaak and Lisette Nathan 3.9.1938

655. Reverse: Ruth Nathan explains at the hearing in Düsseldorf that she is not in a position to support her parents as she only has a net income of 10 marks, from which she also has to feed herself 17.9.1938

656. On 19 September 1938, the Düsseldorf District Welfare Association informs Mayor Mai in Emmerich that Ruth Nathan is working as a seamstress for her aunt Frieda Nathan at a weekly wage of 10 Mk was not in a position to support her foster parents; the mayor agrees on 17 October 1938, 2 p.

657. Interrogation protocol (copy), drawn up by Kriminaloberassistent R. on 12 November 1938 in Emmerich and signed by Ruth Nathan; she states for the record that the 635 Mk found with her parents are her property; she had received a total of 650 Mk as a gift from several people for her emigration; she had submitted the application for emigration some time ago and received the registration number 13780; she could not say when the time would come; she had been living in Düsseldorf since 13 June 1938 and had been working in the city of Düsseldorf. 6.1938 she had been living in Düsseldorf and working in a tailor's workshop; her father Isaak was receiving welfare benefits; she was aware that she had to support her parents, but was unable to do so due to her low earnings, 2 p.

658. Interrogation protocol (copy) of criminal assistant R. on 15 Nov. 1938 in Emmerich and signed by Isaak Nathan; the latter confirms that the 635 Mk found in his possession belonged to his daughter and had been donated by his brother Felix, his niece Nellen Nathan and Rudolf Kempenich; he had been receiving welfare support since September 1938 because he no

longer had any income; he had used up the amount of 15 Mk in his household; the guarantee for his daughter's emigration was at the Consulate General in Stuttgart, 1 p.

659. Notification (copy) from the Emmerich criminal investigation department dated 17 Nov. 1938 to the local welfare office, according to which "Nathan" could not be proven to have committed benefit fraud; on another sheet, corresponding notes from the mayor, including one dated 12 Nov. 1938, according to which during a house search "at the beneficiary (Jew)" Nathan, Baustraße, on 10 November 1938 (sic!) 600 marks were found, which allegedly belonged to the daughter: "The criminal investigation department took the matter in hand. N. had been taken into protective custody, but was released again in the night of 10/11/1938"; in a note dated 18/11/1938, the statements of the Nathans are confirmed by the criminal investigation department; fraud could not be proven, as a result, the Nathans are to continue to be taken into care "at the standard rate", 1 p.

660. Letter from the Provinzialverband für jüdische Wohlfahrtspflege in der Rheinprovinz Köln, according to which Isaak Nathan and his wife received a cash allowance of 7.50 Mk from the association for January 1939; on the reverse, Masch. Note from Mayor Mai in Emmerich dated 13 Jan. 1939, according to which N. would receive 48 Mk as general welfare "until the final settlement", from which the 7.50 Mk would be deducted by the Cologne association, 2 pp.

661. Enquiry by the Emmerich town archives of 12 January 1961 to the Wickrath municipality<sup>1</sup> as to whether Ruth Nathan, born on 23 February 1921, was of Jewish descent; this information was needed for official purposes when compiling a list of the Jewish inhabitants of Emmerich, 1 p.

662. Notification from the Wickrath (Lower Rhine) registry office dated 16 January 1961, according to which a Ruth Nathan was not registered at the local registry office between 1911 and 1930, 1 p.

663. Notification from the municipality of Wickrath dated 31 Jan. 1961, according to which Ruth Nathan, born 23 Mar. 1921 in Barmen, unmarried, of Israelite religion, German nationality, of 7.9.1936 to 11.6.1938 for Wickrath, Poststr. 58, near Harf, officially registered; on 11.6.1938 she was de-registered to Düsseldorf, Hüttenstr. 37; typed enquiry (copy) from the Emmerich city archives dated 1.2.1961 to the Wuppertal registry office. Enquiry (copy) from the Emmerich municipal archive dated 1 February 1961 to the Wuppertal registry office as to whether Ruth Nathan's parents belonged to the Israelite religion or whether the child had been adopted, 1 p.

664. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (writes that he has been dealing "for about a year with the former Jewish fellow citizens of this city" and asks her for support in drawing up family trees and pictures of the parents and the house on Baustraße; he has the address from her cousin Bernardo in Colombia) 20.2.1984

665. Ruth Taub, currently in Palm Springs, California, to H. Sch, 6 p. (thanks for sending the material on the Jewish cemetery; admires the "thoroughness and dedication"; wants to support Sch.; gives addresses of descendants of Jewish families from Emmerich, e.g. to "Balduin Nathan" in Durban/South Africa, to "Erich Nathan" in Cali/Colombia, to "Hermann Nathan" in Holon/Israel, to "Betty Nathan" in New York and Canada, to "Benjamin Nathan" in Birmingham/Alabama and about "Jacob Nathan" in Jerusalem/Israel) 2.3.1984

666. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 2 p. (goes into more detail about the individual families) 25.4.1984
667. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (condolences on the death of Prof. Leo Taub) 15.9.1984
668. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 1 p. (thanks for condolences on the death of her husband, who died on 11 June 1984 after a long illness; wants to visit Sch. on her trip to Europe in 1985) 7.10.1984
669. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (reports that the addresses given by R.T. have been fruitful for his research; asks for further dates and pictures; writes that Rudy Kemp wants to visit him) 16.11.1984
670. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports that on her first visit to Emmerich in 1953 she dug up a tile with her hands that used to be in the entrance hall of the synagogue and offers to photograph the tile and send it to H. Sch.) 23.11.1984
671. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (asks what she must do to ensure that her parents' grave is cared for after her death; announces a visit to Emmerich in early August) 10.4.1985
672. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (announces trip to Germany from 1 to 17 August 1985 and asks when she can visit Sch.) 5.5.1985
673. H. Sch. to the Rheinische Treuhandstelle für Dauergrabpflege Cologne, 1 p. (asks about the possibility of placing individual graves in permanent care; it is obviously the grave of Ruth Taub's parents) 28.6.1985
674. Letter from the Rheinische Treuhandstelle für Dauergrabpflege Cologne to H. Sch. on the conclusion of permanent grave care contracts, 1 p. 9.7.1985
675. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (regarding the care of his parents' graves; looks forward to Taub's visit to Emmerich; reports on the Kemps' visit to Emmerich) 15.7.1985
676. Ruth Taub, currently Crans/Wallis, to H. Sch., 2 p. (wants to discuss the grave issue with the Proest nursery; will be staying with Mrs Martha Manns in Emmerich from 15/16 August 1985 and would also like to meet Sch. then) 31.7.1985
677. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (was surprised when visiting the Jewish cemetery that so many graves had disappeared or were overgrown; would like her parents' grave to be tended for another 100 years after her death; is always surprised at Sch.'s interest in Judaism; asks for a copy of the lecture and wishes her a healthy New Year; encloses programme for the memorial service for Prof. Leo Taub on 7.11.85) 30.12.1985
678. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on her travel preparations, China, Hawaii etc.; again expresses her dismay at the conditions in the Jewish cemetery; bitterness) 18.4.1986

679. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on her trip to Southeast Asia; has left two beautiful religious embroideries from her mother to the Jewish Museum New York: "Of course they won't get the other things I have, only after my death") 3.10.1988
680. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for newspaper cuttings; would have liked to come to Emmerich for the exhibition; did not know that there were celebrations on 9.11.: "If it was not possible at that difficult time, I would not have come.had there been more people like you, this terrible misfortune would never have happened") 30.11.1988
681. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (informs him in advance that Emmerich, Kleve and Kalkar will invite their former Jewish fellow citizens; informs him that he has also exhibited pictures of her family in his exhibition, the best-attended of the whole year) 12.2.1989
682. Ruth Taub, currently Palm Springs/California, to H. Sch., 2 p. (informs her of her holiday plans: South Seas, Australia etc.; asks for exact date of official visit in September 1989) 23.2.1989
683. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 1 p. (cancels her visit to Emmerich for September as her travel plans have changed) 22.4.1989
684. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (informs her when the individual guests from Uruguay, Venezuela, Colombia etc. will arrive; has received a letter requesting the transfer of the flight costs, and the amount has since been transferred) 30.7.1989
685. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 1 p. (looking forward to visiting Emmerich, even if "some things are connected with a heavy heart"; would like to say something at the official reception) 31.7.1989
- 685a. Speech manuscript (copy) by Ruth Taub at the reception in Emmerich town hall on 31 August 1989, 6 pp.  
*StA Emmerich a. Rh., file 8.1.2. Judaism, subsequently included in the Schüürman archive*
686. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (still raving about the "wonderful hours we were able to spend together, and I am happy that I was able to contribute to this") 19.12.1989
687. Ruth Taub, currently in Sydney/Australia, to H. Sch., 2 p. (the week in Emmerich was an experience she will probably never forget) *undated/1989*
688. Ruth Taub, currently in Palm Springs/California, to H. Sch., 2 p. (broke her left wrist during a tennis lesson) 3.2.1990
689. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (informs her that he was awarded the "Fährmann" in January, encloses some newspaper cuttings) 12.2.1990
690. Ruth Taub, currently in Palm Springs/California, to H. Sch., 2 p. (congratulates Sch. on the award; plans to come to Emmerich in the summer) 19.3.1990
691. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (announces that she intends to stay in Emmerich from 19 to 23 July 1990 and asks whether Sch. can recommend a hotel on the Rhine: "Since the invitation from the city, I have learned that I still have friends and acquaintances in my former home town!") 19.5.1990

692. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for the hospitality; reports on her visits to Holland and Paris, where she attended a Friday evening service in the old, beautiful synagogue) 21.9.1990
693. Ruth Taub, currently in Palm Springs/California, to H. Sch., 2 p. (worrying situation in the Gulf: "It is terrible that the madmen are not incapacitated in time"; in November, Tina von Gimborn is visiting for four days who goes to school in Boston, "a lovely, nice girl") 29.1.1991
694. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on her forthcoming trip to South America and asks, among other things, for the address of Albersheim in Brazil; has won several medals in a dance competition) 17.7.1991
695. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (informs her that Mr and Mrs Albersheim have died in the meantime, but that their daughters still live in Porto Alegre; Dr Walter Jacob's children also live there and she can obtain their address from the Albersheim daughters) 12.8.1991
696. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 3 p. (has given the Leo Baeck Institute a family tree and asks Sch. for a copy; does not yet know when she will return to Emmerich) *undated/early 1990s*
697. Double card at the turn of the year (orig.) from Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (writes about her 64-day trip to South America and that she visited Kurt Franken in Uruguay, but did not meet the Albersheim family in Brazil) *undated/end of 1991*
698. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (informs the local Holocaust Museum that she has donated the old tile from the Emmerich synagogue "which I rescued from the rubble in 1953") *undated/early 1990s*
699. Ruth Taub from New York to the von Gimborn family in Emmerich, 1 p. (informs about her planned wedding to a certain Elliot; would like to show him her hometown between 7 and 9 September; reports on her planned trip along the Middle Rhine, Luxembourg, Strasbourg, etc. and asks for tips) 11.6.1992
700. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 1 p. (indicates that she is getting married in August and will make her honeymoon trip to Europe; asks which route to Strasbourg is better) 11.6.1992
701. Carl Hans von Gimborn to Ruth Taub in New York, 2 p. (is pleased that Taub wants to remarry and cordially invites her and her husband; gives route tips for a picturesque trip along the Middle Rhine and Strasbourg) 22.6.1992
702. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (looks forward to seeing her again in Emmerich in September) 17.7.1992
703. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (she and especially her husband, who has never been to Germany, would prefer to spend the night in a hotel on the Rhine than in Elten or in the station hotel; Mr von Gimborn has also invited them) 30.7.1992



704. Ruth Taub from New York to C. H. von Gimborn, 2 p. (reports on wedding preparations; her husband first wanted to get married and then travel to Europe; announces that he will be in Emmerich on 18/19 September; overnight stay either in the Bahnhofshotel or on the Eltenberg: "What a pity that there is no decent hotel on the banks of the Rhine!") 9.8.1992

705. H. Sch. to Ruth Robinson in New York, 1 p. (would like to include the details of Ruth's husband Elliot Robinson in the family tree) 2.1. 1993

706. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (writes that she had the marriage with Elliot annulled after five months on 1.4.1993) 27.6.1993

707 Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (is already curious how the book "Jews in Emmerich" will read; wants to leave the family album to the new Holocaust Museum in New York after her death) 29.3.1994

708. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 4 p. (thanks for the book "Jews in Emmerich"; has ambivalent feelings: on the one hand she is grateful that the book exists, on the other hand the entry upsets her terribly: Isaak Nathan, suicide or suicide; she would like to investigate in the Emmerich archives who tortured her father to death: "The murdered are accused after 50 years, as in the case of my beloved father"; she knows an Emmerich man who claims that "the Emmerich people were never Nazis"; she simply cannot get over the fact that her father is so slandered - whether by Sch. out of ignorance or because there was a "slight doubt" and he "didn't want to step on the Emmerichers' toes") 1.4.1994

709. Central database of the names of Holocaust victims

<https://yvng.yadvashem.org/?language=de>: The memorial sheet from Yad Vashem Jerusalem (Israel) for the cattle dealer Isaak Nathan, born 11 April 1880 in Emmerich, states under the heading circumstances of death: "Suicide/Holocaust" in Emmerich police prison on 16 August 1941. The cover page states that Nathan was "murdered in the Shoah", 4 pp.

*Subsequently added to the Schüürman archive, retrieved online on 10 January 2022*

710. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (informs about her travel plans including Antarctica, Montevideo, Buenos Aires; wedding of Kurt Franken's daughter; wants to visit Mrs Schindler in Buenos Aires; dance tournaments etc.; announces visit to Emmerich and would like to see H. Sch. "to clear the air") *undated/mid-January 1995*

711. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (announces her visit to Emmerich for 12/13 August; spends the night in the station hotel; wants to visit her parents' grave and the gardener, among other things; writes enthusiastically about her trip to Antarctica, the Falklands, Montevideo and Buenos Aires; was at the wedding of Kurt Franken's daughter and danced the tango until her feet hurt at 4.30 in the morning) 20.6.1995

712. Ruth Taub, currently in Cannes/France, to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks again for the hospitality; asks Sch. to investigate the circumstances of her father's death; the files of the Emmerich Gestapo and the higher authorities could be helpful, the police probably had nothing to do with it) 4.9.1995

713. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 2 p. (notes that "our good relationship has taken a direction that I did not want; asks for understanding that, due to data protection, he needs the permission of the Minister of the Interior to inspect the files of the Main State Archives regarding the circumstances of Ruth Taub's father's death. He therefore advises her to contact

the Düsseldorf Main State Archives herself; hopes that she will not be disappointed, because "the reports were written by perpetrators and not by victims; his father took the truth about his death with him to his grave, and this truth justifies him above all that was written and thought"; however, as she now absolutely insists on seeing the files, he sends her, with a heavy heart, letters from the Emmerich Municipal Archives. from the Emmerich town archives; according to these official documents available to him, he had chosen the short sentence for the book "Jews in Emmerich": "after several arrests, he killed himself, according to official notification, on 6 Sept. 1941 in the Emmerich police prison"; "Anyone who wants to know knows that at that time a Jew did not go to his death voluntarily, but was driven to it"; for ethical reasons he did not explicitly mention the cause of death "death by hanging") 17.1.1996

714. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks Sch. for his commitment; she is not clear to whom she should write about the Gestapo; has asked a student councillor Blaschka to give her the address of the Ministry of Culture in Düsseldorf; informs her of Gotthilf Nokielski's death) 14.4.1996

715. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (reports on visits from descendants of the Nathans and Gompertz; regrets if he has caused her grief and asks when she will come back to Emmerich) 29.8.1996

716. Ruth Taub from New York to Mr Faust, NRW-Hauptstaatsarchiv Düsseldorf; 3 p. (thanks for the notes regarding the Mayor's Local Police Criminal Department No. 345/40 Emmerich; it is interesting that the contents of the Gestapo files were lost in the 1970s; she informs Dr Faust, who had previously referred Taub to the Emmerich City Archives, that Mr Schüürman had already looked them up. Schüürman had already looked there and taken from the official files that her father had died by suicide, but this could not be true as her father had never left his wife alone; according to the copy from the Emmerich Criminal Investigation Department, her father had been "murdered" for 12 eggs; she still remembers her childhood well when shops were not allowed to sell food to Jews: "These were people who made all these laws to destroy the Jews"; "before this terrible time, our neighbours were friends, but nobody helped us"; "The bad thing is, it can happen again in Germany") 4.10.1996

717. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 1 p. (incomplete; writes about the Marchand family and teacher Louise Cohn; writes about her trip to Alaska in June; plans to come to Emmerich in March 1997, then to Wickrath; asks for the address of the Albersheim family in Porto Alegre/Brazil) 6.10.1996

718. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (has bought a computer typewriter with floppy disc and can now save all data; also has no other address for the Albersheim family) 6.1.1997

719. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (asks for the address of Erich Nathan in Israel, whom she would like to visit on her next big trip, and for the station hotel, which has a new name; will probably be in Emmerich on 30 May; had minor surgery on her toe) 2.2.1997

720. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (gives her the addresses of Erich Nathan in Arad/Israel and Hotel Stadt Emmerich in Emmerich; hopes to be able to welcome Mrs Taub in Emmerich soon) 10.2.1997

721. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (encloses the Hebrew letters for her parents' gravestone in Emmerich; asks Sch, whether the other letters should be cut deeper so that they

last 100 years; asks Sch. to check her collected data on the Harf family; her mother Lisette was part of the large deportation transport from Düsseldorf to Riga from 10-14 December 1941 and died on 28 March 1942: "This means that my poor mother suffered in the concentration camp for about 3 months") 19.6.1997

722. E-mail from Ruth Taub from New York to the Kalenborn company, 1 p. (has received an invoice; wants to know what the company will do to the gravestone, e.g. lower the Hebrew letters and Star of David; it is already the second gravestone since her parents were murdered) 16. 7.1997

723. Letter from Ruth Taub from New York to the Kalenborn gravestone company, 1 p. (is outraged that she has received an invoice but her letter of 16 July has simply been ignored; demands that the letters and Star of David be lowered; the current repair should last "forever"; will pay the invoice immediately once someone in Emmerich has checked that everything has been carried out according to her wishes) 4.8.1997

724. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 2 p. (informs her that all the work on the gravestone was carried out "properly and cleanly" by the Kalenborn company according to Mrs Taub's wishes; informs her of his enquiries about her family in Wickrath) 14.8.1997

725. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 3 p. (informs him of the death of Kurt Franken; writes that she has left several objects from her childhood and from her father-in-law, a famous cantor, to the new Museum of Jewish Heritage, including a silver Chanukkia from the synagogue; explains her dissatisfaction with the business practices of the stonemasonry company regarding her parents' gravestone) 23.8.1997

726. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (the Kalenborn company had informed him by telephone that the invoice for her parents' gravestone had not yet been paid; he was surprised that she had not yet transferred the money; the order had been placed by him; if she did not want to pay the invoice, he would have to do so; the company would soon send her a reminder: "Please do me the favour and clear up this embarrassing matter for me") 29.9.1997

727. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch, 2 p. (Schüürman's letter of 29. 9, had "upset her very much"; he was "an insult"; she had never owed anyone anything, but had always paid her bills promptly; Kalenborns were "simply terrible, shameless people"; if she came to Emmerich and Wickrath in 1998, she would only stay in Germany for one day, as in the past: "As they say in English: a leopard can't change its skin"; the less time she spent in Germany, the better for her; she got along quite well without the insolence) 5.10.1997

728. Letter (copy) from Ruth Taub from New York to the Kalenborn company (her wishes had simply been ignored, "and now I am being threatened"? the work was so bad that the stone would have to be replaced again in 30 years; encloses cheque for half the costs) 6.10.1997

729. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 2 pages (describes the gravestone once again; Kalenborn had not received an order from him to deepen the existing letters; when the corresponding order came from Mrs Taub, the work on the gravestone had already been completed; he would very much regret it if the good relationship was disturbed because of such a small matter; addition from Sch.) 10.10.1997

730. Ruth Taub from New York to the Kalenborn company and accompanying letter to H. Sch. to the enclosed copy, 1 p. (has received invoice and reminder costs; cheque returned because

it was sent to the wrong address; writes to Sch. that she is glad to have commissioned another company for the grave in Wickrath and that she is sorry that she asked Sch. to help her with the gravestone) 18.10.1997

731. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 1 p. (arrives in Emmerich on 14 June, stays at the Hotel Societät; hopes to solve the "unpleasant problem" with Kalenborn at a meeting, the company had never replied to her) *undated/end of May 1998*

732. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on her interesting, but also exhausting trip to Moscow, St. Petersburg with the Hermitage, etc.; Riga was "very painful" for her) 16.8.1998

733. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (has had heart surgery; has resumed his "hobby work" after hospitalisation, rehab, etc.; wants to send new family tree of the Nathan family) 28.2.1999

734. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 1 p. (wishes Sch. a speedy recovery after heart operation; plans longer trip to Greenland) 11.4.1999

735. H. Sch. to Ruth Taub in New York, 1 p. (visit from Alice Burkett-Caro from Atlanta; unfortunately can no longer change the word "adopted daughter" as the book "Jews in Emmerich" is no longer published) 20.1.2000

736. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 1 p. (is bedridden after another foot operation) 4.12.2000

737. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (continues to have problems with her foot and walks with a cane; she is also having surgery on two fingers; wants to give the "interesting" article on the Emmerich Synagogue to the Leo Baeck Institute and the Museum of Jewish Heritage; has bought a new 1000 MHz computer with a larger monitor and calls it "my monster"; e-mail correspondence with the Schiecks and Tina Abbing) 7.3.2001

738. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (does not want to travel abroad this year, feels safer at home in view of President Bush Jr's "insane" Iraq policy; wants to spend several weeks in the mountains of Aspen/Colorado and is taking part in dance competitions again) 5.4.2002

739. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on her liver cancer operation; contact with Tina Abbing and Mr and Mrs Schieck "fallen asleep"; still in contact with Herta Schieck) 14.7.2002

740. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (reports on her illness; makes plans; hopes to be able to recover in Florida in winter and wants to look for a flat there) 9.9.2002

741. Ruth Taub, currently Palm Beach/Florida, to H. Sch., 2 p. (many meetings with Werner Nathan and family; Hans Nokielski was with her for 6 days; before new examinations; remains optimistic; wants to go to the music festival in Aspen/Colorado in summer and perhaps to Europe in September) 28.3.2003

742. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (it was nice to have seen Schüürmans again; injured her big toe shortly before leaving Europe) 20.6.2003

743. Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (health problems; onset of winter) 12/2003

744. "Thinking of You" (Orig.) from Ruth Taub from New York to H. Sch., 2 p. (thanks for article on the death of C. H. von Gimborn; is receiving chemo; if treatment goes well, she wants to come to Emmerich to put everything in order with her blessed father's grave; however, she does not yet know whether she should conclude a contract for 250 or 500 years; for a longer period, all the letters would have to be etched deeper; she would like H. Sch.'s advice on this) 27.3.2004

745. E-mail from the law firm Curtis in New York with data on Ruth Taub, date of death 29 June 2004 in New York; communication (Org.) from the law firm Curtis dated 2 July 2004 to H. Sch., according to which Ruth Taub died on 29 June 2004; Taub had asked the law firm for this; (Org.) from the law firm Rembar & Curtis, N.Y., dated 23 February 2005 to H. Sch., according to which Ruth Taub would like to leave some childhood memories to the Jewish Museum Emmerich; request for the address of this museum, handwritten addition by H. Sch.: "done by Kleipaß"; Kai Flintrop from Cologne, formerly Emmerich, asks the law firm Curtis in N.Y. by e-mail dated 17 June 2009 where Ruth Taub was buried, he would like to visit her grave during his N.Y. visit and ask for her grave. visit her grave and leave a stone according to Jewish tradition; the law firm emails Flintrop the address and email address of the cemetery office, 4 pages in total.

*Ruth Taub's doll, her poetry album and photos are on display in the Rhine Museum in Emmerich – note Schüürman archive*

746. Newspaper article Niederrhein-Nachrichten: "Ruth N. Taub's estate came from New York to the Rhine Museum" (law firm Rembar & Curtis sent doll, poetry album and photos; curriculum vitae of Ruth Nathan; note about the old Jewish cemetery) *undated/after 2004*

747. Newspaper article from the RP Emmerich of 14 May 2005: "Last proof of Jewish community" (about the renovation work on the old Jewish cemetery on Wassenbergstraße; on the history of the cemetery; Herbert Rubinstein, former managing director of the North Rhine State Association of Jewish Communities, is quoted in the article as follows: "This cemetery is the last proof of the existence of the Jewish community in Emmerich and should be preserved").